

VIA MARSEILLES]

The London and China Telegraph.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY ON ARRIVAL OF THE P. & O. MESSAGERIES AND PACIFIC MAILS FROM CHINA JAPAN STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, &c.

IN CONNECTION WITH THE "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS." A WEEKLY SUMMARY FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS.

VOL. XIX.—No. 715.] LONDON, MONDAY, MAY 14, 1877.

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Latest Advices.

PORTS	OUTWARD.		HOMeward. Received May 8.
	From London.	Arrived out.	
JAPAN—Tokohama	Feb. 3	Mar. 21	Mar. 29*
Yedo	"	"	" 26
Osaka and Ningpo	" 2	" 26	" 26
Hakodai	"	"	" 24
Nagasaki	"	"	" 19
Peking	"	"	" 23
Tien-tsin	"	"	" 22
Ching-tung	"	"	" 26
New-Jersey	"	"	" 20
Fuzhou	"	"	" 21
Kun-kien	"	"	" 21
Chin-kang	"	"	" 20
Shanghai	" 9	" 27	" 29
Ningpo	"	"	" 27
Fouchow	"	"	" 28
Formosa	"	"	" 27
Anoy	"	"	" 29
Swatow	"	"	Apr. 1
Hong Kong	" 23	Apr. 4	" 5
Canton	"	"	" 5
Macao	"	"	" 4
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila	" 2	Mar. 16	Mar. 23
COCHIN-CHINA			
Saigon	"	"	Apr. 9
SIAM—Bangkok	" 2	" 11	" 15
BORNEO			
Labuan	"	"	Mar. 25
Sarawak	"	"	Apr. 5
JAVA—Batavia	"	"	" 6
Samarang	"	"	Mar. 31
Soureaya	"	"	Apr. 3
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore	Mar. 9	Apr. 9	" 19
Penang	" 3	Mar. 21	" 7
Ceylon—			
Galle	" 25	Apr. 16	" 18
Colombo	"	"	" 17

* Via San Francisco.

THE MAIIS, &c.

The French mail, with the advices dated as above, from China and the Straits Settlements, was delivered, via Marseilles, on the 8th inst., and the Japan advices reached London, per Pacific Mail Company's steamer *Aleutia*, from San Francisco, on the 13th inst. The next inward (P. and O.) mail, from Yokohama 3rd, Shanghai 8th, Hong Kong 12th, Singapore 19th April, which is due, via Brindisi, on Monday next, the 21st inst., left San Francisco on the 12th inst., two days early.

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By this mail to Naples and Marseilles, per Messageries Maritimes steamer *Adydr*, arrived May 7.—From Yokohama: None. From Shanghai: Rev. Mr. Thomas, wife, and family. Messrs. Hogg, C. H. Tannen, Giaga, W. Wanx, G. H. Drige, J. H. Murray, Ballantine, Mr. and Mrs. Peterson, Mr. and Mrs. Deane, Messrs. H. Smith, Francisco Cambraio, Ogden Edwards, Juan Manzani, Capt. Matthews, Mr. and Mrs. Bell, Messrs. Li-Pong, Paou, and Chau-Mi-Pong, Messrs. Grignon, Marin d'Arbel, Mr. Gigné, Junr., Messrs. Alford, Furlonger, twenty-eight Chinese (to Mr. Gigné), Messrs. Morley, Sharp, Pellegrin, Powell, Lemoune, and two children. From Hong Kong: Mr. Manuel Sarda. From Saigon: Messrs. Bert Emanoil, Rangona, Dupomier, Lutkins. From Batavia: Mr. P. Dakoth, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. E. Arnold, Mr. and Mrs. Rybanski, Mr. and Madam. Denecker, Mr. Vandeck, Mr. and Madam. Fraser, Messrs. Rogers and Leibton, Admiral and Madam. Genialing, and Madam. Falk, Mr. and Madam. Scher, Mr. de Fangerville, Mr. Claudet. From Singapore: Mr. Laurie, Messrs. Joe Fuget, Pape, A. P. y Venec, J. M. Espinoza, Peltzuer, Taguaveli, Willard. From Galle: Messrs. Armand, Raval, Madre. Caugue, Madre. Labrune, Mr. W. Smith, Mr. Hind. From Sase: Mr. Percebois.

Per steamer *Nestor* (Holt's line), expected May 20.—From Shanghai: Mr. H. Keytell. From Hong Kong: Mr. J. H. Beveridge. From Singapore: Major and Mrs. Dunlop and two children.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer *Douce*, from Southampton, May 8.—To Hong Kong: Lieut. H. D. Law, Nav. Sub-lieut. F. Lancelet, Dr. T. D. Popham, Mr. G. Hecksher. To Singapore: Dr. and Mrs. Little and three children, Mrs. Wells, Miss Silver, Miss Lawrence. To Penang: Mr. C. N. Van Goo.

Per P. and O. steamer *Pera*, from Brindisi, May 14.—To Shanghai: Mr. Lazarus. Per P. and O. steamer *Australis*, from Southampton, May 17.—To Singapore: Capt. and Mrs. A. Glen.

Per Messageries Maritimes steamer *Adydr*, from Marseilles, May 20.—To Shanghai: Mgr. Petit Jeen, Mr. and Mrs. Lav. Mr. and Mrs. Schnell, Messrs. E. A. Deacon, C. Le Bas, Kickman, G. A. Phillips, C. W. Davis, Tournain, Stokes. To Hong Kong: Mr. C. V. de Ceraul and family. To Batavia: Mr. J. A. F. Van der Bette. To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. Rutgen. To Colombo: Mr. E. G. Harding.

Per Messageries Maritimes steamer *Polo*, from Marseilles, June 3.—To Yokohama: Mr. and Mrs. Poll.

Per Messageries Maritimes steamer *Djedda*, from Marseilles, June 17.—To Colombo: Mr. W. L. Bennett, Mr. A. White.

Summary of News from the Far East.

Two reports, coming from different quarters, are brought from China by the present mail, which seem to indicate that there is some prospect of a commencement being made in the direction of the introduction of foreign improvements. It is stated that a telegraph is to be erected between the Arsenal and the Viceroy's Yamen at Tientain, and that a railway is to be made from Anping to Keeling in Formosa. Coupled with what has taken place in other directions, there certainly seems at last to be some signs of movement. It is said that Li-Hung-Chang is to stay in Formosa, a statement which would seem to coincide with the news by last mail, to the effect that a memorial had appeared in the *Peking Gazette* with reference to the improved government of that island. There are no further particulars concerning the famine, except that the deaths were much more numerous in Shantung, in consequence of the comparatively small efforts made in that province. A memorial from Li Hung-Chang, asking for some reward to be conferred upon those who have aided in repairing the embankment of the Yellow River has appeared in the *Peking Gazette*. An extraordinary circular has been published by Mr. Hart, Inspector-General of Customs, in which he states that the rumours recently current with respect to China intending to contract various loans are without foundation. This denial, however, appears to be accepted with some reservation. Mr. Davenport has again taken charge of the Consulate at Shanghai. At the meeting of the S.S.N. Company, which took place there, it was announced that the Chinese have paid Tls. 1,245,000 on account of the recent purchase of the steamers and plant. A somewhat serious disturbance has taken place at Ningpo, at the Bridge of Boats. In Hong Kong subscriptions have been liberally forthcoming for the relief of the famine. The combination among the yarn dealers has assumed greater importance than was at first supposed to be likely, and has had the effect of paralyzing business in Cotton for the time being. The finding of the Naval Court of Inquiry with reference to the *John o'Gaunt* has been given. By the last accounts, Sir Brooke Robertson, Her Majesty's Consul at Canton, was progressing favourably.

From Japan the most important item of news is the report that the alleged confessions with reference to an attempt on the part of the Government to compass the assassination of General Saigo are now acknowledged to be false. One of the papers characterises them as "an impudent fabrication, and regrets that its contemporaries should still uphold it." The volunteer question has, according to the advices received via America, been referred to the Ministers, who have pronounced

in favour of the view of the Governor of Kanagawa. The present mail papers state that the members of the Consular body who were on the committee had retired. Steps were being taken in Yokohama to afford relief to the Chinese sufferers from the famine.

From the Straits Settlements the principal, and, in fact, almost the only item of news is that five ports on the West Coast of Sumatra have been opened to trade. Everything continued quiet in the Native Malay States. Mr. W. E. Maxwell will take the place of Captain Walshe as police magistrate during the absence of the latter upon other duties. Advices received in Singapore from Manila reported that the establishment of the Spanish Settlement at Sulu was progressing satisfactorily.

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

The present French mail brings advices from this port to the 27th March, and we have advices via San Francisco, two days later, viz., to the 29th March. The French mail from London, Jan. 26, arrived out on the 16th March, and the following P. and O. mail of Feb. 2 was received on the 21st March.

The war news was still very indefinite at the date of the mail's departure, and the papers express but very guarded opinions with regard to it. The *Herald* says it is true that the later despatches speak of advantages gained by the Imperialists, but the skirmishes which preceded the abandonment of the positions taken possession of by the troops were not of any great importance, and it would rather seem that the Satsuma men, finding their lines too extended, and some of their advanced posts too exposed, had simply withdrawn to stronger positions. These daily victories are looked upon with great suspicion, as under the present press regime nothing is published except from Government information. The *Rising Sun* states that although fighting with a bravery and heroism worthy of a better cause the Satsuma insurrectionists have suffered severely. At noon on Thursday, 15th March, a heavy struggle for victory took place at Tawaraoka, and when darkness ended the fray neither combatants had been triumphant. Early on Friday the contest was renewed, the rebels occupying a strong position, from which they were dislodged after three hours' struggle. Saturday was a blank, both parties preparing to resume on Sunday, which they did at daylight, and which resulted in a total discomfiture of the Satsuma forces, their second chief leader, General Kirino, being killed, and General Shinowara wounded. Closely followed by the Imperial forces they fled to Uyeki, where fighting was resumed on Tuesday and continued throughout the day, neither party gaining any advantage; both encamped on the same ground occupied in the morning. At dawn on Wednesday the Imperialists, having been reinforced, commenced the attack, and although twice beaten back, their intrepidity ultimately compelled the rebels to retreat to within three miles from Kumamoto, where they concentrated. On the same evening the Government troops again attacked them, but were repulsed, and retired to Uyeki, in the vicinity of which place fighting continues. At Yamaga, on Wednesday, the 21st, it was expected the rebels would make a very stubborn and obstinate resistance; however, on being attacked they were dislodged after two hours' combat, and the Government troops occupied the place, the rebels having retreated to Wifu. Saigo's hope appears to have no base, but a concentration of power between Uyeki and Kumamoto, and although his forces have been worsted, none doubt his ability to conduct a campaign.

According to the *Akebono Shimbun*, one at least of the conspirators, alleged to have been suborned by the Government to assassinate Saigo, has publicly recanted his "confession," which he says was wrung from him by torture in Kagoshima. It will be remembered that in his "confession" itself he stated that he had not been tortured—so that it would appear that torture was applied to him not only to make him confess, but to confess that his confession was spontaneous. The *Akebono Shimbun* says:—"The following account of Mr. Nomura's imprisonment by the insurgents in Kagoshima has been related by himself:—'I arrived at Kagoshima in the steamer *Koyo-Maru* three days after the insurgents had forced their way into the arsenals. On landing I was arrested by a policeman and taken to the Kencho, where I was examined by the chief of the police, Nirei. He first inquired what business I had returned to the ken to transact. I replied that I had been engaged in educational affairs in the late Miyagi-ken; but, on that ken being abolished, I regretted very much that a number of enterprising students should be left without the opportunity of completing their education, so I took them to Tokio and placed them in a good school. Having no business in Tokio, I returned to my birthplace, Kagoshima. But the Chief of Police refused to believe me, and pronounced that I was sent by the Government to execute some secret order; and then, under severe torture, compelled me to confess and seal my confession. At that time the rebels were ready for marching towards Kumamoto. Before

departing they became very excited and wanted to kill me and some others who had been imprisoned by them, but Saigo would not permit them. When the Mikado's envoy arrived in Kagoshima the Kencho despatched an express messenger to Saigo at Kawajiri asking for instructions as to what was to be done with the prisoners. An order came back that they were all to be killed. In the meantime the envoy hastened to effect our liberation, which was fortunate for us all, as otherwise we should all have been killed."

The *Tokio Times*, referring to this subject, says:—

The most extraordinary instance on record of simultaneous change of heart is that revealed in the choice "confessions" of the conscience-stricken police agents who, it is claimed, were ordered in a body to Kagoshima to assassinate Saigo, who accepted the mission with alacrity, and who, on arriving there, were one and all penetrated with remorse and lifted up their repentant voices in joint "confession." According to the publications in the *Japan Mail*, which is so well pleased with the documents in question that it is not satisfied with printing them once, but reproduces the most defamatory of them with notes of confidence, there were upwards of twenty of these murderous deputies who ardently co-operated in the plot, and who travelled southward with death in their hearts, but reached their destination only to be unanimously overcome and to pour out their purified souls in "confession." There is no story more touching than this in the annals of crime. The *Newgate Calendar* has nothing to compare with it.

The Consuls who had been nominated on the volunteer corps committee have retired rather than cause offence to the Governor of Kanagawa, who objected to the movement.

Elizabeth Seafield, who was charged with concealment of the birth of a child on board the ship *Annie W. Weston*, has been sentenced to a month's imprisonment. A question of jurisdiction was raised in the prisoner's favour, but was decided against her.

The *Japan Gazette* gives the following:—

Baron Alexander von Siebold, attached to the Finance Department, leaves shortly for Europe on a special mission in connection with his department. He expects to be absent from Japan about six months.

A new Japanese trade dollar has issued recently, a handsome coin, and of the full value which it represents—a coin admirably adapted to take the place here usurped by the Mexican as a medium of exchange, or at least to circulate side by side with it.

Steps have been taken to form a Committee of all nationalities to collect subscriptions in aid of a fund for the relief of the famine-stricken population of the Chinese provinces of Shuntung and Chihli, and the members will probably be ready to commence work immediately.

A telegram from Colonel Hayashi at Kobe says that a Chinese man-of-war, the *Kai-an*, arrived there on the 20th March. He boarded the vessel and asked the captain his business in Kobe. The reply was that the crew were being trained in seamanship. She will stop there for about one week, after which it is not yet decided whether she will go on to Yokohama or return to Shanghai.

About thirty of the most prominent of the German residents and their friends met on the evening of the 22nd March to celebrate the Emperor's birthday by a dinner, given in the banquet hall of the Club Germania, which was most tastefully decorated for the occasion. Mr. A. Evers occupied the chair. The toast of the evening was the health of the illustrious monarch whom the guests had assembled to honour.

Toda, ex-daimio of Ogaki, Mino, who lately visited Kioto to pay his respects to the Mikado, had been, previous to that, doing good work in his old dominions. He assembled the most prominent men of his former retainers in a monastery, and exhorted them to do their utmost to preserve peace and order in the province. He distributed among them yen 10,000; and gave yen 5,000 to the agriculturists, and yen 3,000 for division among the inhabitants of the town of Ogaki.

Captain J. Carst has returned from Cape Idzu, accompanied by the diver, Mr. Sutherland, appointed by the British Consul and the United States Consul-General at the request of the French and Netherlands Consuls to survey the wreck of the French steamer *Nil* and report upon its condition. From what we can gather it appears that the diver found the ship in the condition in which she was reported to be by Mr. Jan de Boer some time ago, namely, with the port side and decks blown to pieces, and no cargo visible.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

YOKOHAMA, MARCH 29.

The most astonishing event in the modern history of this country is the defection of Saigo, who, both here and in Europe, has, since the partial opening of Japan to foreign relations, been held to be the model of honesty and loyalty; and I cannot but think that his reputation is not belied, and that the grievances which have driven such a man to revolt must have been no slight ones. Of course we foreigners can hardly see beneath the surface, and, as information is so sedulously kept back from us, only divine the secret motives for actions which are evident. Certain it is, however, that reform is needed in the machinery of Government, and that the need is felt by those Japanese who wish well

to their country. The latter assert that Japan has arrived at that stage where a representative Government alone can supply her needs; that those who now hold the power have become careless of the desires, the requirements, of those they rule; that they think only of the profits and privileges of office which they have determined at all hazards to reserve to themselves; that the Imperial authority is as much a fable as it was in the most despotic days of the Siogunate; that the Imperial name is used as a cloak for oppression and extortion; and that in fact the present system is leading to, if it has not already arrived at, the worst form of an irresponsible personality, an oligarchy vested in a few selfish, oppressive, and incapable officials. A great part of this is no doubt true, and if Saigo can bring about the establishment of a representative legislature, he will deserve more than he has yet done, more than any of Japan's heroes and patriots have done, the gratitude of his country. He is said to have formulated his demands for a change, and that on the persistent refusal of the Government to grant them he took to arms, intending to march to Tokio. He was obstructed by the garrison of Kumamoto to which place (in Hiogo) accordingly he laid siege, and the Central Government sent troops to put him down. The task they have undertaken is one of no ordinary difficulty. He is in a rich and fertile country, well able to support his frugal troops, for an indefinite period; he is at the head of ten or fifteen thousand men, at least, drawn from the most chivalrous population of the empire, trained to arms, and inspired by the renown and patriotism of their chief and their own traditions; and he commands the most important strategic position of a district which is, apparently, admirably calculated to afford facilities for a warfare such as he is waging. True he is now surrounded, at a distance, by the Imperial troops; but not one important advantage has yet been gained by the latter. Kumamoto, in the centre of the province, garrisoned by Imperialists, is besieged by some of his adherents; and at this moment it is again rumoured to have fallen. It is impossible to foretell the issue of such a struggle. In the army and the fleet Saigo has many devoted followers; and in spite of the large array—all the available troops and police of the Empire have been sent against him—his success is thought at least possible. He would be satisfied with a compromise, probably with the resignation now of Okubo, Terashima, and other of the Ministers, and a guarantee of more thorough reforms in the future. For many reasons a prompt arrangement is desirable, and not the least is that Saigo is invaluable to his country. Such are some of the causes of the sympathy which is felt by foreigners for him; and the belief that his success would be to the advantage of many interests.

Another test case is being heard, this time in the British Vice-Consular Court in Yedo, on the subject of the ground rents due to the Japanese Government, by foreigners holding land in the Ts'kidji concession. A British subject refuses to pay arrears on the same ground as that assumed by Captain J. W. Batchelder when he was attacked in the U. S. Consular Court. The Tokio authorities in this case, however, are represented by counsel, Mr. J. F. Lowder; and it is highly improbable that the ruling will be the same in the British as it was in the American Court. We shall then have the anomaly of British subjects paying their rents, as they should, their location having been mere speculation on their part, and if they have lost it is absurd to expect the Japanese Government to bear their losses, and American citizens living rent free.

Mr. John Robertson, agent since 1866 of the Oriental Banking Corporation, goes home by the *Alaska*. He is not expected to return. The bank loses a shrewd and careful representative; society in Yokohama a prominent member; the business community a faithful and far seeing adviser, and the Turf a staunch and loyal supporter.

The tea season is closed. The new crop is expected to commence arriving about the end of April. Better business has been done in silk of late, owing to advices of improvement at home.

TOKIO.

The *Tokio Times* says:—

A neat and commodious structure in the Kai Sei Gakko grounds, to be devoted to lectures and other general exercises in connection with the institution, was opened on the evening of the 10th ult. with appropriate formalities. Mr. Hamao, Vice-Director of the University, introduced the proceedings by a statement of the character, object, cost, &c., of the finding. Mr. Nishimura, of the Mom Bu Sho, followed with a paper on the history of the introduction of the study of foreign languages in Japan, noticing the early use of the Dutch, and how, after the Perry Expedition, English became the more sought after, and this not merely as a literature but as a spoken tongue.

The merchants in Tokio are, says the *Herald*, complaining bitterly about the depressed state of trade, which they attribute to the war in the south, therefore they are anxious to see it terminated. The present struggle is considered to be a far more serious matter than the abolition of the Bakufu ten years ago, and there is no knowing how long it will last. In the former civil war the country was ripe for a change of Government, and only its own officials were earnest in the defence of the Bakufu,

and both sides thought more of making money than of fighting, in which they had simply no experience, on account of the long peace which reigned throughout the land. Now, however, the combatants are comparatively well-drilled on both sides, and the people of the country are not by any means unanimous in their desire for a change of Government, therefore it is feared the present contest will be stubbornly contested for a considerable time, and much blood must necessarily be shed whichever side is victorious. Already it is said that the killed on both sides number over 1,000 men, without any decided advantage having been gained, either by the Government troops or the rebels. The expenditure already incurred by the Finance Department for the suppression of the rebellion exceeds 5,000,000 yen, and this is but a small portion of what, in all probability, will yet be required. The recent reduction in the land-tax will also cripple the power of the Government at this important crisis. Since both the Government and people in Tokio are suffering much loss, and deriving no benefit from the insurrection, it is becoming very unpopular, and viewed in a light totally different from that with which the people regarded the fall of the Sogoonate.

CHINA.

PEKING.

In the *Peking Gazette* of March 3rd Li Hung-chang, Governor General of Chihli, memorialises recommending for honours and rewards the officers engaged under his direction last year, in superintending the construction of new embankment works on a portion of the course of the Yellow River. The portion in question is on the south bank of the river, in the Tung-ning district, where the work previously accomplished by means of the labour of the country people was a mere outline of what was necessary, and requiring reconstruction on a larger and more substantial scale, the earth needing to be rammed down into a solid condition, before it could assume a proper and durable form. The undertaking being one of such magnitude, whilst the people could not be required a second time to devote themselves to the work, and no funds being available for the purpose in the public treasury, the only alternative was to make use of the services of the soldiery. The Governor-General, accordingly, in February, 1876, appointed General Liu Shen-hiu, at the head of fourteen *ying* (of about 500 men each) of Southern troops, and three Brigadiers of the provincial forces, with six *ying* under their command, to proceed to the spot where the works were required, and to set about the construction of the embankment. The site of the works is a river-flat, formerly overflowed, the soil of which is loose sand, and in certain parts of which water was still lying. The energy displayed by the troops overcame, however, all obstacles, the men working with the utmost zeal under the indefatigable superintendence of their officers, so that by the middle of May the undertaking was complete.

TIENTSIN.

The *Courier's* correspondent writes:—

The weatherwise of the Chinese in Tientsin say that if no floods come the year's crops must be good, as the earth always produces well when, as has been the case this winter, much snow falls. A good year is necessary for the northern provinces, as the strain of another season of floods or drought would be intolerable. The refugees are dispersing for their homes, most of them, says a correspondent, in a pitiful state of foulness. The actual deaths by starvation in Tientsin have not been many, as every man, woman, and child had a daily ration; not nutritious, but sufficient for bare sustenance. But the crowded and dirty mazsheds, the horrible atmosphere, the cold and misery, make the poor wretches fall very easy victims to disease. The difference between the provinces of Chihli and Shantung is that in Chihli all possible means are said to have been taken to give support to the people, while in Shantung absolutely nothing has been done, and the deaths have in consequence been very numerous.

The *North China Herald* has the following:—

We are informed that Mr. Betts has commenced setting the poles for the line of telegraph which is to connect the Arsenal with the Viceroy's yamen. The question of a submarine or an aerial passage of the river is not decided. "Fung-shui" may come in to decide the question.

The indications are that something will be done this year towards opening the mines. Those nearest and most easily worked are situated about eighty miles (240 li) N.E. of this. We wish all success to all efforts for the development of the resources of the country.

A great change is manifest in the Chinese portion of the French Concession, in the way of cleanliness and decency, within the last few months. We rejoice at this, and accord all honour to the Consul, whose efforts, we believe, have at last brought about this needed reform.

Last Friday the temperance men of H.M.S. *Curlew* gave their friends a tea, followed by an entertainment, consisting of songs and theatricals. The opening address, by one of their number, stated that it was done in honour of the missionaries, and to show that their efforts had not been in vain. Coming here

with five teetotalers, he said, they had now thirty-three. The general good conduct of the ship's company is noticeable to all. We still see a good deal of poverty in the streets, but the mass of the refugees have returned to their homes.

NINGPO.

A correspondent of the *North China Daily News* gives an account of a somewhat serious disturbance which took place on the 28th March on the Bridge of Boats, and which threatened at one time to spread to the foreign Settlement. It was a festival of some sort, and the place was crowded with people who thronged the bridge. About six o'clock a row arose about the payment of the bridge toll, and the bridge-keeper seems to have seized and struck a soldier. A general *mélée* ensued, in the course of which one of the Chinese employed on the bridge struck a soldier such a severe blow that it is uncertain even yet whether he will recover. Colonel Cooke and Mr. Golding, the superintendent of police, were soon on the spot, and tried to take the wounded man to Dr. Mackenzie, but the braves came with a rush and prevented them; and both had to retreat. Apprehension began now to be felt for the safety of the Settlement; and Mr. Warren, who is in charge of H.B.M.'s Consulate, wrote to Colonel Cooke and to the Teetai and Taoutai for assistance; and at the same time, at the request of a military mandarin, asked Dr. Mackenzie to go down and see to the wounded man. By this time there was an immense crowd on the spot. Colonel Cooke had only ten men with him, but the Taoutai had sent some, and the Teetai had come himself; still it was doubtful for a time whether the mob could be kept out of the Settlement, and they shouted their intention to "beat" and "kill" with startling frankness. The wounded man was at length got away; and the people were told, through the mandarins, that the bridge-keeper and his assistants should be arrested, and the case thoroughly investigated. Matters have quieted down for a time, but it depends, probably, on the fate of the soldier whether they will remain so. If he dies I should not be surprised if the people smashed up the bridge, and there is no saying how far the row may spread. At present he is still unconscious. For the moment the bridge is practically free, as most of the employés are arrested, and none of the remainder dare show.

HANKOW.

The *Celestial Empire* gives the following particulars of the preparations for the new tea season:—

The number of bongs at Hankow and the amount of sycee sent up for the new tea-season are both very much the same as they were last year. It is expected that musters of new teas will be placed on the market by the 6th or 7th of May, as the spring is very early; there is a probability that steamers will be despatched sooner than usual, and everybody, we hear, is preparing to operate very largely. The Shansi bankers are holding their forty and forty-five days' drafts on Hankow, and demanding higher rates than last season, owing to their short funds in the province of Hupeh. If the foreign banks do not come to terms with the Shansi bankers the former will have to ship sycee instead of buying bills, in which case more sycee—about two million of taels—will be required to send to Hankow. This time last year about a million taels of Shansi bank bills had been bought; this year, up to date, next to nothing has been settled.

SHANGHAI.

The present mail brings advices from this port to the 30th March; the French mail from London Feb. 9, was received on the 27th March.

A very unexpected and curious circular which has been issued by the Inspector-General of Customs has been the subject of some comment. It specifically denies the truth of the statements which had been lately current regarding the negotiation of Chinese loans. Loans of Tls. 2,500,000 and of Tls. 4,000,000 had been talked of from Japan; and various other loans for Fukien, Yunnan and Hupeh, but it is denied that any such were contemplated, and it is affirmed that there is no Imperial authority in any one's hands to take any steps towards raising any loan whatever.

Mr. Davenport, who proceeded recently to Wuhu, has returned and resumed charge of the British Consulate.

The annual meeting of the shareholders in the S.S.N. Company has been held. The report and accounts show a profit on the year's working of Tls. 178,925, besides Tls. 20,194 which the agents had repaid for defalcations perpetrated by T. W. Eckfeldt. Tls. 157,500 had been distributed as a dividend to shareholders, and Tls. 29,891 carried to reserve. Messrs. F. B. Forbes, Bell, Wood, H. de C. Forbes, and P. Maclean, were elected directors (and to act as a committee of liquidation) for the ensuing year. It was announced that the Chinese have already paid Tls. 1,245,000, on account of their purchase of the Company's plant; and that a return of Tls. 70 a share would be made to shareholders on the 26th instant. It was agreed that Messrs. Russell and Co. should receive 3½ per cent. on all payments as a remuneration for winding-up the Company; that sum to include commission on the sale, and the cost of office work. There remain legal ex-

penses, and two doubtful claims, viz., certain fees claimed on behalf of the U.S. Government for transfer of the ships, and a claim on behalf of the Harbour authorities of Ardrossan for the cost of removing the wreck of the *Chusan*, both of which are disputed. The *Chusan*, it is explained, was built at Glasgow for the S.S.N. Company's river trade, but was driven on the rocks at Ardrossan during a gale, and wrecked on her way out. The present suit is instituted by the Earl of Eglinton as trustee of the Ardrossan Harbour Works for the cost of removing the wreck. The case was tried in the Exchequer Division of the High Court of Justice, and the jury, by the judge's direction, gave a verdict for the plaintiff with £11,531 damages. This decision has been appealed from, and is thought likely to be reversed.

The case against W. H. Shaw, who is charged with unlawfully obtaining Tls. 5,800 from Mears, Butterfield and Swire, has been in part heard before the Police Magistrate, Mr. Mowatt. The accused has been admitted to bail.

The repairs to H.B.M. ship *Lapwing* have been completed, and she has proceeded to Nagasaki, where a court-martial will be held. H.M.S. corvette *Charybdis* left Shanghai on the 23rd March, her crew having completed a period of as nearly as possible three years and six months' service on this station. The vessel is in such good order that she will be kept on the China station for at least another commission, which will be the third she has had, with but very little interval between the first and second. She was commissioned on each occasion at Sheerness, the second time being on the 26th September, 1873. Her new crew were to join at Hong Kong, the relieved crew going home in the *Tamar*.

The North China Branch of the Asiatic Society have held their monthly meeting, Mr. J. W. Kingsmill in the chair. Specimens of Chinese Calligraphy were exhibited by Dr. Macgowan; Mr. G. C. Stent read a paper on "Chinese Eunuchs," and the President read a paper by the Rev. John Ross, "Notes on the Liou River."

At the last ordinary meeting and entertainment at the Temperance Hall; there was a crowded audience, the opportunity being taken to present a farewell address to the Rev. J. Thomas, Vice-President of the Temperance Society, who was leaving Shanghai. The presentation was made by Mr. C. P. Blethen, the President, on behalf of the members and friends, and Mr. Thomas suitably replied.

Haydn's oratorio, the *Creation*, has been given by the Shanghai Musical Amateurs at the Masonic Hall.

We take the following items of news from the *North China Herald*:

The Hankow Municipal Council are going to open a Post-office at that port, and have agreed with the Shanghai Council for the mutual distribution of correspondence.

The French Municipal Council have received intimation from the Gas Company that the capital of the company has been raised to Tls. 50,000, and that a reduction of 2 cents per cubic metre will be made, after the 1st March, on the price of gas consumed by the Municipality. The Council approve the suggestion that a document shall be drawn up, defining the powers of the General Hospitals Trustees.

A brutal attempt to murder has been made in a house at the rear of the French Police-station. A Chinese soldier went to the house, and a quarrel arose between him and a native woman living there. The soldier became very violent, and a man in the neighbourhood interfered to protect the woman, and nearly at the same time a native municipal constable also arrived. The soldier suddenly drew a sword he was carrying, and began cutting and slashing at the three people, inflicting serious injuries on all of them. Not content with this he stabbed the neighbour in the breast, inflicting, it is feared, a fatal wound, and afterwards made his escape into the city.

The annual meeting of No. 1 company of the Shanghai Volunteer Corps has been held. From the report of the committee it appeared that during the year eleven members had joined and seven resigned. The total strength of the company was now thirty-three. The committee recommended that, in accordance with Rule 21, Mr. Peter Maclean, the former captain of the company, be elected an honorary member. This suggestion was unanimously adopted.

A seaman named Henry Jones died suddenly in the Sailors' Home, of which he was an inmate. It appears he left the Home some time during the day, and returned shortly before four o'clock much intoxicated. He had been seen to drink six or seven large glasses of raw spirits rapidly one after the other, in company with some seamen on liberty from ships in harbour. On entering the Home, he lay down, and almost immediately became unconscious. Mr. Bowen, the Superintendent, was at once called, and sent for Dr. Johnston, who attended in a few minutes, and applied the usual remedies in such circumstances, but to no purpose, for deceased never recovered consciousness, and died about nine o'clock the same night. Next morning a post mortem examination was made by Drs. Johnston and Henderson, the result leaving no doubt that death was caused by excessive drinking, though it is said that deceased was not an habitual drunkard. Deceased was about fifty years of age, and was to have been shipped or board the *Inverness*. He formerly

belonged to the *Leander*, but being injured by falling from alcat, was left behind.

The four pawnbrokers who were convicted at the Mixed Court, on the 14th March, of gambling in a house in the Woohoo-road, in company with a large number of others, and fined \$100 each, were released from the Central Police Station on Sunday, on payment of \$300 between them, by desire of the Assessor who heard the case, probably because it was found impossible to obtain the \$400 from them. The Pekingese student, or teacher, was taken on Monday before the Mixed Court, and liberated after receiving a few pats on the hand. The lodging-house-keeper, who was fined \$100 for allowing ingress to the gambling premises through his house, is still in custody; it is believed to be unlikely that he can pay the fine.

FORMOSA.

A correspondent of the *North China Daily News* writes as follows from Amping, under date 28th Feb.:—

Things are very dull here, nothing doing in the way of foreign shipping, and sugar going up. We have plenty of Chinese gun-boats running here from Foochow, Swatow, and Amoy; they all bring ammunition and all kinds of military stores, which are being landed at this port. These include Spencer, Remington, and other rifles, small field-guns, tents, and everything pertaining to a Chinese army. Earthworks and small forts are being pushed forward with vigour. His Excellency the Futsai is staying here, and has received orders to put the coast of Formosa in a proper state of defence, as the Spanish affair is not settled yet.

The Futsai visited the forts early the other morning, in coolie dress, at the time the soldiers ought to have been drilling, but he found them all asleep. He caused all the officers to be put in cages, and took their mandarin buttons from them.

The commander of the fort was in the habit of keeping three months' pay of the soldiers in arrear, and if any became sick, he put them in a miserable hut outside the walls, and did not care whether they lived or died. The Futsai heard of this treatment, and summoned the commander before him. The commander had only one ear—the Taipings had cut off the other. The Futsai ordered the remaining one to be amputated, and it was immediately done.

Three or four native Christians have been decapitated here. There had been some fighting between the Christians and other people; two or three Spanish Roman Catholic priests are resident here, but it is not known if they had anything to do with the quarrel; it is certain, however, that the three or four Christians were put in prison, and that others tried to rescue them, whereupon those in prison were decapitated.

The Futsai is kind as well as strict. He was out walking the other night in the city of Tai-wan-foo, wearing common clothes, when he heard a row between a coolie and a tea-shop keeper. The coolie had not enough money to pay for what he had had, but after a good deal of talking on both sides he got off. The Futsai commenced a conversation with him, and the coolie said he had come in from the country trying to get work, as he had a mother and father to keep, and also wanted to get married; and when he had earned \$100 he meant to go back. The Futsai said he was very sorry and also very poor, and had nothing to eat himself. The coolie replied that he had a little chow, and would give him half. So they went and supped together. Next morning the coolie was surprised to receive \$100 addressed to him.

There is great talking of putting up a telegraph and making railways here, but I cannot say if anything will come of it. The Futsai goes in for foreign things, and the telegraph, if made, will be laid to Amoy and Foochow.

The district magistrate has been suspended by the Futsai for some dereliction of duty.

P.S.—I have since heard there is to be a railway made from Anping to Kelung.

HONG KONG.

Dates by this mail extend to the 5th April; the French mail from London Feb. 23 arrived out on the 4th April.

The collections in aid of the famine-stricken population in the North of China have been most satisfactory. No less than \$13,000 have been obtained by the leading members of the Tung-wha Hospital, and it is estimated that at Hong Kong and Macao a total sum of about \$18,000 will be got together.

The *Daily Press* gives some further particulars concerning the combination among the Cotton and Yarn Guilds, to which we recently alluded. It appears that on the 31st March the Min Un Tong, or Cotton and Yarn Guild of Canton, issued a circular to that trade containing nine rules for the observance of all the dealers in cotton and cotton yarn in Hong Kong and Canton. In the introduction is set forth the loss resulting from the discount on broken silver, and from the premium on bank-notes. It then enjoins the members of the guild to adhere to the rules, which may briefly be stated as follows:—In dealing with foreign hongs, Chinese dealers in cotton and yarn must first obtain a promise from the foreign merchant that he will accept broken silver on the same terms as bank-notes. Any infringement of this rule will be punished by the imposition of a fine of ten

dollars on every bale of cotton purchased. A similar fine will be inflicted on any dealer in cotton in Hong Kong who dares to trade with the foreign hongs after ceasing commercial transactions with them. A fine will be imposed on any travelling merchant taking cotton or cotton yarn to Canton for sale. If, after business has been discontinued, the foreign hongs still refuse to accept broken silver equally with bank-notes, and any travelling trader should buy cotton or yarn from them, the members of the guild must cease dealing with him, or he must pay a fine of fifty dollars. The object of enforcing the circulation of broken silver is stated to be for the benefit of all concerned, but this can only be secured by the co-operation of all the other merchants in Hong Kong and Canton. Should any of them, therefore, have transactions in the future with foreign hongs, the members of the guild must cease dealing with him. If any of the foreign hongs point out any Chinese merchants as being leaders of this movement, the members of the guild must cease to deal with him after settlement of the issue. Should any of the foreign brokers oppose or annoy the guild in this matter none of its members will be allowed to deal with him under pain of a heavy fine. The result of the issue of this document has been that business in the Cotton market has for the time been brought practically to a standstill, and foreign merchants have been thereby exposed to much inconvenience. The action of the Cotton Guilds is considered the more unreasonable as it is well known that, while they are only willing to pay for cotton with broken silver, they systematically refuse to accept it in payment for their produce.

Land, both in Hong Kong and at Kowloon, continues to rise in value. In the former place a large offer has recently been refused for some lots which would have been sold for a mere song a few years ago.

A rather unusual article has been advertised for sale, namely, a tame panther. He was brought up from Saigon, and was offered both to the Museum and Gardens, but declined in both cases from lack of accommodation, though the curator of the former expressed a strong desire for the skin and bones. The owner, however, did not wish the animal to be killed, and was offering it for what it would fetch. It is considered a pity that no place can be found in the Public Gardens for the many interesting specimens so constantly procurable in Hong Kong. A fine bear from Newchwang was similarly offered and declined, while a sixteen-foot boa constrictor would also have been contributed had there been any accommodation.

An inquest has been held upon a China woman, Chow Alan, who died under somewhat sad circumstances. It appears she had been suffering for the last two years from eruptions in the face, and her neighbours constantly teased her, alleging she was leprosy. This at length so preyed on her mind that eventually it threw her into a state of temporary insanity, and during the absence of her husband she took a dose of opium. Her husband was sent for, and he administered an antidote, which partially revived her, but she subsequently got worse and died.

Progress is being made with the building for the new Lock Hospital. It is to be at the south-west corner of the site which has been prepared for the Civil Hospital.

U-Anam, who is charged with being one of the gang of robbers who recently made a raid upon Captain Sand's ship, has been committed for trial at the Supreme Court.

The Government *Gazette* publishes the finding of the Court of Inquiry into the loss of the British ship *John O'Gaunt*. It sets forth that the ship left Birkenhead on the 22nd August, with a cargo of coal, bound to Manila, and, that while making for the San Bernardino Strait in the Philippine Islands, the vessel struck on a reef on the morning of the 8th January last, near Bacan Island; and, after passing over this reef, that the vessel floated, but, having received serious damage and making water rapidly, the master and crew left the vessel in a boat, and that about ten or fifteen minutes after doing so the *John O'Gaunt* struck on another reef on the east side of the Island of Batag, and shortly afterwards sunk, and goes on to state that the Court find that the master, John Please, the number of whose certificate of competency is 11,429, was wanting in proper precaution in that he did not, directly he made out that land was unexpectedly in sight, at once try for soundings and haul the ship to the wind and off shore; that the cables were not bent, nor the anchors unstowed, although the ship was running for the land, and by the reckoning was only twenty-six miles from it. The Court adjudge that the master's certificate be suspended for a period of six months.

From the *China Mail* we take the following:—

The Admiralty suit of Messrs. Adams, Bell, and Co., against the owners of the *Rosina* was again heard on 21st March before the Chief Justice in Chambers. The Hon. G. Phillips, instructed by Messrs. Sharp, Toller, and Johnson, appeared for the promoters, the bondholders. Mr. Kingsmill, instructed by Mr. Denny, appeared for the respondents, the owners of the ship, and for the master, an intervening party, in a claim for wages. His Lordship was of opinion that Mr. Kingsmill had no sufficient authority from the owners to appear for them, the master, who instructed the solicitor, being no longer their agent. He would, therefore, treat the case as an undefended one, unless some communication could be had with the owners to obtain their authority to appear. Mr. Bailey, the U.S. Consul, was in

Court, and his Lordship suggested that he might send a telegram to the owners on the subject, but Mr. Bailey replied that he could only do so through the Secretary of State; he would, however, see what could be done. His Lordship finally adjourned the case *sine die*, with leave to either party to bring it on at any time.

We hear that a large meeting of Chinese merchants was held on the 22nd March to consider the bank-note question. The premium on these notes has again assumed such formidable dimensions that our "Celestial" friends state they find it seriously affects their business transactions. A resolution was, we understand, passed at the meeting to memorialise the Government on the subject, with the view of some means being established whereby the native traders may not have to bear these heavy losses. The evil lies, as the *Chinese Mail* stated a few days ago, in the difficulty of adjusting the scales at the various banks with those used by the Chinese merchants. The Chinese allege that the manipulation of the former by the native employés invariably tells against the person who pays silver in, but we suspect there is a difference in what the Chinese call "Yeung Ping," or foreign scale, and what is known as the "Sz-ma Ping," or standard scale used by the native merchants.

The property of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company on Praya West has been sold to Chinese for the sum of \$206,000.

By the last accounts from Canton Sir Brooke Robertson, H.B.M. Consul, was progressing favourably, and it was hoped that, with the return of more genial weather, he would speedily recover from the effects of his late illness.

Straits Settlements.

SINGAPORE.

The present French mail brings advices from this port to the 12th April; the P. and O. mail from London March 9th was received on the 9th April. We take the following items of intelligence from the *Straits Times*:

A sitting of the Vice-Admiralty Court has been held before Mr. Justice Ford, when two cases connected with the *Martaban* and *Kromatah*, were heard. Against the first, a claim was preferred for \$3,020 on behalf of the Borneo Company, Mr. Bond appearing as Proctor for the promoters and Mr. Burkinstshaw for respondents. The further hearing of the case was adjourned. Against the *Kromatah* a final decree was passed for about \$2,000 in favour of the master, Captain Craig, and a judgment on first default for the sum of \$3,481 in favour of J. McAlpine and five others, and of \$966 in favour of W. Partridge and five others, all mariners, but such is the antiquated absurdity of the regulations of our Vice-Admiralty Court, that, notwithstanding the absence of opposition, these men will have to wait for two months longer before a final decree on a second default can be passed in their favour and they get their money. The vessel was sold for \$35,000, and the sum of \$34,370 is in the hands of the Sheriff, and cannot be touched till eight weeks more have elapsed to pay the just dues from the ship.

Mr. W. E. Maxwell, on his return from Perak, will take Captain Walsh's place as Magistrate at the Police Court during the time the latter performs Major Dunlop's duties as Inspector-General of Police. Mr. Gottlieb will, therefore, retain his position in Province Wellesley.

Letters from a Sulu correspondent set forth that the Settlement was then progressing favourably in every respect. The town and block-houses are being improved, and streets and roads are being laid out and cleared. The Moros in the interior appear to confine their active hostility to attempts to steal cattle, in which they are invariably foiled and beaten off. Some of the minor chiefs and their followers, who are willing to submit, are deterred by fear of others who appear determined to retain their savage petty despotism *a'outrance*. Any attempts on the part of their slaves or dependents to go over or emigrate to the Spanish Settlements incur death, or worse, without appeal. The chief is but too often judge, jury, and magistrate, and frequently executioner rolled into one. However, the Spaniards are making every effort to counteract such diabolism, by granting refuge, dwelling-places, and land to all such well-disposed individuals as can manage to escape the savage toils. The various movements of the vessels employed in exploring and surveying of the Straits Archipelago are described at length in the correspondences, and when completed will doubtless be a boon to navigators long required in that quarter.

A telegram to the Hon. W. H. Read, Consul-General for the Netherlands, states that the following ports on the West Coast of Sumatra have been opened to trade:—*Telok Kroet, Riga, Kitapan, Passir, and Tenom*.

The *Diario* announces that owing to the arrival at Manila of several thousands of cases of petroleum from China, the price of the oil at that city had fallen to seven dollars a case, which amount, though one-third less than the exorbitant rate hitherto ruling, is yet double of what the article had cost before. There was then a prospect of a further fall, several large consignments of petroleum being announced as on the way to Manila. The

great drought which has brought about the failure of the greater portion of the paddy crops in the Philippines has caused mangoes to be remarkably abundant there this year, which, says the *Diario*, confirms the native proverb—"Year of many mangoes, year of little rice."

The *Penang Gazette* publishes a statement of the Penang municipal revenue and expenditure for 1876 as compared with those of the previous year, together with estimate for 1877. Province Wellesley is included, and the following table gives the totals:

	1875.	1876.	1877.
Revenue ...	\$115,424 98	\$123,809 34	\$129,578 00
Balance from previous year	18,023 82	9,114 72	2,080 56
Total ...	\$133,448 80	\$132,924 06	\$131,658 56
Expenditure ...	\$124,334 08	\$130,843 50	\$121,289 00
Balance to next year ...	9,114 72	2,080 56	10,369 56
Total ...	\$133,448 80	\$132,924 06	\$131,658 56

The up-keep of roads and bridges is the principal item of expenditure and cost in 1875, \$52,160.64, in 1876 \$38,344.42, while the estimate for 1877 is \$40,000. The police contribution comes next in cost, and averages about \$20,000 annually.

In commenting on our article on the "Treaty with the Nine States" the *Straits Times* says:

"The mistake made in accepting or agreeing to the treaty or engagement may be summed up briefly as follows:—It condoned the insolent and ignorant defiance of British authority, without exacting due penalty in the shape of a contribution for the expense of the war, and a great opportunity was missed of formulating clearly and distinctly the relative position of these petty States towards the paramount power. And lastly, while for any power of good it is not worth the paper it is written on, it has put the Maharajah of Johore in a false position, and it tends to future complications, which may necessitate further interference by, and expense to, the paramount power."

Market Reports.

(For dates see first page.)

IMPORTS.

YOKOHAMA.—A better feeling had been apparent in most goods, Cotton Yarn 16/24 having especially attracted much attention, which had resulted in a large business; for 28/32 the inquiry had been comparatively trifling. As regards Shirtings, the lower qualities of \$1 lbs. and higher makes of 1 lbs. showed an improvement. T. Cloths, 7 lbs. and Drills had been wanted for Army purposes. Indigo Shirtings and Prints were fairly saleable, and Turkey Reds and Black Velvets were in better demand at higher rates. A good inquiry has existed for Lawns. In Woollens, a considerable improvement in Mousselines, and a good business in Army Cloth and blankets for Government requirements, were the only matters worth recording. In Metals, the only noticeable feature had been sales at public auction of assorted Round and Square Bar Iron and damaged Nail rods, the former realising fair prices considering the dull state of the market.

HIOGO-Osaka.—The Chamber of Commerce Circular says:—There has been a somewhat better demand for goods during the past month, and, although prices generally show no improvement, the tone of the market must be considered healthier. Grey Shirting, have been neglected, in consequence of heavy arrivals from Yokohama on native account. Turkey Red Cambries are slightly firmer. Black Orleans were inquired for a few days since, but at closing the demand is inactive. A decided improvement has taken place in plain Mousselines, both as regards value and deliveries. Some sales of Blankets to the Government are reported, and the market has been cleared of good qualities. Iron: 1 inch Nail rods are saleable, other descriptions being very dull.

EXPORTS.

TEA.

YOKOHAMA.—During the interval business had been almost nil. The settlements had only amounted to 600 piculs, and arrivals had been almost nil; in fact the season was considered as virtually closed. Quotations were entirely nominal. The undertenored had been the shipments since the 9th March:—Per O. and O. steamer Oceanic, 282,878 lbs. viz.:—184,705 lbs. for New York, 80,630 lbs. for San Francisco, 18,721 lbs. for Chicago, 3,300 lbs. for Salt Lake City, 522 lbs. for Boston. For transhipment at Hiogo to Coulinskyle, 184,858 lbs. for New York; for transhipment at Shanghai, 47,512 lbs. for New York; for England, 390 lbs. Export from 1st May to date:—

	Current Season.	1875-6.
To New York ...	10,555,086	13,052,233
" San Francisco ...	2,966,939	2,975,258
" Boston, Chicago, &c. ...	2,226,714	2,559,322
" England ...	200,195	37,537
Total ...	15,948,934	18,624,350

HIOGO-Osaka.—A rather larger business had been transacted during the month, confined chiefly to common descriptions, and purchases of 2,600 piculs are reported. Settlements for the season to date had reached 58,500 piculs, against 56,125 for the same time last year. Stocks were estimated at 1,200 piculs, and were held for such irregular prices that reliable quotations could not be given. The Coulinskyle arrived from Yokohama on the 6th March, but had not completed her cargo for New York, although fully engaged.

SHANGHAI.—Black : A fair business had been done during the week, the settlements being 7,000 chests. The stock was rapidly being cleared off. The prospect for the new season was that there would be less tea than last season; but the opening rates for leaf in the country, on which much depends, were not yet known. In Green Tea there had been again a good business done. Teas had been readily taken at rates last quoted, and had there been more to buy the settlements would have been larger. Although the stock had shrunk to a small figure, there had been no rise in prices, and it was evidently the very low cost that was tempting buyers, as there seemed no other inducement to ship medium and common teas by sailing vessels that can hardly arrive in New York before August, at which season the market is always most slack; and new Japans and Pingueyas were freely on offer. Arrivals were already in excess of the total of last season.

SILK.

YOKOHAMA.—In the early part of the period under review a rather active demand was experienced for Hanks, and prices advanced \$30 to \$40 per picul. Subsequently the inquiry subsided, and the advance had been lost. At the close there was nothing doing, and quotations were to a great extent nominal. In Oshius a fair business had been done at lower prices. The stock at the close was 1,500 bales, against 300 bales at the same date last season. Settlements, from 1st July, 1876, to date, 20,175 bales, against corresponding period—Season 1875-76, 12,100, 1874-75, 9,350, 1873-74, 12,500.

SHANGHAI.—There had been no market, hence telegrams continuing to report the article unsaleable at prices almost approaching the rates current a year since. The only business doing had been consignments on Chinese account, and a little speculation amongst natives in coarse Silks. A report had been circulated that Blue Elephant had been contracted for by the silken at the opening of the market up-country; the quantity was, however, only 80 bales, and the price settled, viz., the equivalent of Tls. 440 per picul, can be no guide as to the dealers' ideas generally of what the foreigner will be ready to pay. With exchange on a level almost with current quotations, the reported price paid for this chop last season was Tls. 100 per picul lower. The unsold stock amounted to about 12,000 bales.

COMPARATIVE EXPORTS FROM MANILA, CEBU, AND ILO ILO FROM JAN. 1 TO MARCH 21, 1877.

Produce.	—	Great Britain.		Continent of Europe.		United States.		Australia.		San Francisco.	
		1877.	1876.	1877.	1876.	1877.	1876.	1877.	1876.	1877.	1876.
Sugar	Tons.	1,923	7918	362	491	10,136	4,554	—	549	30,044	4,449
Hemp	Bales	20,374	14,570	206	1125	23,658	20,261	647	20	750	3,761
Coffee	Tons.	489	292	269	320	—	—	—	—	90	6
Cigars	Mil.	3,950	1,738	440	—	260	60	580	60	110	933
Indigo	Qrs.	703	134	—	—	—	23	—	—	—	—

EXPORTS FROM SINGAPORE TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	Total to March 31,	First three months of		First three months of		First three months of	
		1877.	1876.	1875.	1874.	1873.	1872.
Gambier	... 113,922	... 88,799	... 84,302	... 61,163			
Tin	... 10,495	... 4,252	... 11,737	... 8,841			
Sago Flour	... 24,116	... 51,282	... 50,301	... 44,275			
Pearl Sago	... 16,443	... 13,326	... 10,641	... 14,279			
Black Pepper	... 40,109	... 53,407	... 32,668	... 4,091			
White Pepper	... 10,418	... 10,080	... 7,407	... 6,506			
Guutta Percha	... 5,303	... 4,524	... 3,458	... 6,159			
Coffee	... 2,443	... 5,562	... 46	... 5,132			
Hides	... 9,099	... 5,245	... 4,169	... 6,697			
Borneo Rubber	... 1,780	... 1,692	... 791	... 1,482			
Horns	... 2,033	... 1,758	... 763	... 608			
Gum Copal	... 1,371	... 814	... 1,247	... 576			
Gum Benjamin	... 992	... 844	... 253	... 672			
Sticklac	... 255	... 1,379	... 389	... 3,351			
Mothero's Pearl Shells	... 588	... 712	... 581	... 581			
Tapioca	... 16,512	... 13,008	... 10,951	... 7,348			
Gamboge	... 84	... 27	... 107	... 78			
Rattans	... 10,230	... 20,170	... 2,732	... 9,531			

EXPORTS FROM PENANG TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	Total to April 7, 1877.	Total to April 7, 1876.	
		Piculs.	Piculs.
Tin	... 12,506	... 39,542	
Sugar	... 47,038	... 32,410	
Black Pepper	... 4,908	... 11,557	
White Pepper	... 1,820	... 1,841	
Cloves	... 194	... 17	
Tobacco	... 926	... 5,281	
Tapioca	... 6,218	... 3,916	
Hides	... 1,327	... 1,765	
Horns	... 126	... 190	
India-rubber	... 130	... 161	
Mace	... 100	... 42	
Nutmegs	... 178	... 303	
Rattans	... 2,467	... 5,260	
Coffee	... 145	... 1	

TELEGRAMS FROM THE FAR EAST.**RUSSIA AND KASHGAR.**

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

ST. PETERSBURG, MAY 7.—Intelligence received here from Tashkend announces that the mission under Staff-Captain Kuropartkin, arrived at Kashgar on Nov. 7, 1876, and left again on Dec. 3. It passed the fortification of Maral Baschi, and the towns of Akss and Kucha, and arrived on Jan. 25 at Kurnja, where it was received by Yakoob Beg. The expedition started on its return journey on Feb. 18, and arrived safely at Tashkend on April 18.

EXCHANGES, &c.

[For dates see first page.]

ON LONDON.

At	Bank Bills.	Credits.	Documentary.
Yokohama, 6 m.d.	4s. 0d.	4s. 1d.	4s. 1d.
Shanghai	5s. 0d.	5s. 5d.	5s. 5d.
Canton	3s. 1d. to 3s. 11d.	3s. 11d.	3s. 11d.
Hong Kong			
Macao			
Singapore	4s. 0d.	4s. 0d.	4s. 0d.
Penang	4s. 0d.	4s. 0d.	4s. 0d.
Manila	4s. 0d.	4s. 0d.	4s. 0d.

MISCELLANEOUS.

—	At Shanghai.	At Hong Kong.
Bills on India	Rs. 300 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 310	Rs. 284 $\frac{1}{2}$
Hong Kong	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ dis.	—
Bar silver	Tls. 111.2.5	8 $\frac{1}{2}$ prem. (nominal)
Mexican dollars	Tls. 74.1.5	8 $\frac{1}{2}$ prem. (nominal)

SHANGHAI SHARE QUOTATIONS.

Shanghai Dock Company, Tls. 200 r.d.

Shanghai Gas Company, Tls. 142.

Steam Tug and Lighter Company, nominal.

French Gas Company, Tls. 75.

Hong Kong Fire Insurance Company, \$612.

North China Insurance Company, Tls. 910.

Yangtze Insurance Association, Tls. 510.

Union Insurance Society, —.

China Traders' Company (Limited), \$1,200.

China Fire Insurance Company, Tls. 103.77.

Hongkew Wharf Company, Tls. 85.

Chinese Imperial Loan, \$104.

Pootung Dock Company, Tls. 78 $\frac{1}{2}$.

China Merchants Steam Navigation Company, nominal.

HONG KONG SHARE QUOTATIONS.Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. prem.

Hong Kong Gas Company, \$75 per share.

Hong Kong and Whampoa Dock, \$1 per cent. discount.

China Traders' Insurance Company, \$3,100 per share.

Hotel Shares, \$52 $\frac{1}{2}$ per share.

Hong Kong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Company, 10 per cent. div.

Hong Kong Fire Insurance Company, \$537 $\frac{1}{2}$ per share.

Union Insurance Society of Canton, — per share.

China Fire Insurance Company, \$149 per share.

Chinese Insurance Company, \$105 per share.

Chinese Imperial Loan, 21.63 (exchange 4s. 1d.).

Shanghai Steam Navigation Company, Tls. 30 per share ex div.

SINGAPORE SHARE QUOTATIONS.

Tanjong Pagar Dock Shares (\$100 paid), \$180.

New Harbour Dock Company (\$100 paid), par.

Singapore Gas Company (\$25 paid), par.

Galena Mining Company (\$25 paid), \$30.

Singapore Steamship Company (Limited), par.

* * * The latest telegrams report the rate for six months' bank bills at Hong Kong 4s. 0d., at Shanghai 4s. 6d.

ARRIVALS.At **YOKOHAMA.**—From Liverpool, March 22, Duna (str.); from Cardiff, 27, Casper; from San Francisco, 28, American Lloyds.At **SHANGHAI.**—From Newcastle, N.S.W., March 25, Emulation; from Fremantle, 29, Spinaway.At **HONG KONG.**—From Newcastle, N.S.W., April 3, Argonaut; 4, Mary Goodell; from London, May 9, Glenfinlas (str.), Candie (str.); from Liverpool, 9, Ajax (str.); from Cardiff, 9, Channel Queen.At **BATAVIA.**—From New York, May 6, Sir Robert Sale.At **MANILA.**—From San Francisco, March 15, Cape Clear; 18, Lightning; 21, Parthia; from Hamburg, 21, Frances and Amanda.At **ILO ILO.**—From Melbourne, March 2, Socoilo.At **SINGAPORE.**—From Cardiff, April 6, Surrey; 9, Ironside; from Sunderland, 8, Joseph Brown; from Newcastle, 8, Holyrood (str.).**DEPARTURES.**From **YOKOHAMA.**—For Melbourne, March 18, Christine; for San Francisco, March 26, Tartar.From **HONG KONG.**—For Falmouth, f.o., Feb. 25, Devana; March 13, Stonewall Jackson; for Melbourne, March 16, Partenio.From **SHANGHAI.**—For London, March 23, Nestor (str.); 28, Hispania (str.); for New York, 29, Inverness.From **HONG KONG.**—For London, March 31, Nestor (str.); April 1, Carpo.From **BATAVIA.**—For Nieuwe Diep, May 5, Prins Hendrik (str.).From **MANILA.**—For Liverpool and Cadiz, March 10, Cadiz (str.); for San Francisco, 13, Quickstep; for New York, 16, Edith; for London, 17, Valparaiso.From **HONG KONG.**—For London, March 31, Nestor (str.); April 1, Carpo.From **BATAVIA.**—For Dorothea, 20, Peacock.From **MANILA.**—For Liverpool and Cadiz, March 10, Cadiz (str.); for San Francisco, 13, Quickstep; for New York, 16, Edith; for London, 17, Valparaiso.From **HONG KONG.**—For London, April 7, Nestor (str.).From **PENANG.**—For London, April 7, Hoindstar.

For Mails, Shipping Postscript, Births, Marriages, and Deaths, &c., see pp. 445-6.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS, CORRESPONDENTS, &c.
No notice can be taken of Anonymous Correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be accompanied by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.
A REGISTER is kept of the Addresses of all Persons connected with the FAR EAST, and reference can be made to the same by personal application at the Office or by letter.

Any Information required by Subscribers in reference to Commercial or general matters in CHINA, JAPAN, SINGAPORE, and other parts of the FAR EAST will be supplied on application at the Office, where files may be seen of the Journal published in those Countries.

The "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS" is published Weekly on the day of departure of the mails, and contains a summary of English, Continental, and American News, Commercial and Shipping Reports, &c. Subscription, £3s. per annum. The "LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH" is published Weekly on the arrival of the English and French mails. Subscription, £2 2s. per annum.

JAMES WEST, PUBLISHER,
79 GRACECHURCH STREET, LONDON, E.C.

The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON: MONDAY, MAY 14, 1877.

THE VOLUNTEER QUESTION IN JAPAN.

ACCORDING to the latest accounts, the Foreign Ministers have not given their support to the residents in Yokohama with respect to the establishment there of a Volunteer Corps, to which the Governor of the place had taken exception. The motives which influenced the representatives in coming to this decision have yet to be explained before it will be possible to say whether they can be considered to have acted correctly in the matter, in face of the obvious considerations in a contrary direction which must at once suggest themselves. It is, however, no doubt possible that on the matter coming before the Ministers some points may have been pressed upon them of such a nature that they could hardly feel justified in actively supporting the Volunteer movement, if the Japanese Government really objected to it. But, however this may be, there can scarcely be two opinions as to the Japanese authorities having acted very unwisely in raising any objection to a movement the only possible effect of which could be to throw some additional weight on the side of law and order. There is something supremely ludicrous in the idea of the national dignity of Japan being slighted because a small Volunteer corps is established in Yokohama. No doubt the Japanese Government feel perfectly secure even while open rebellion is raging in the country ; but this is, perhaps, because they are used to it, and they ought not to be very hard upon foreigners who, being accustomed to live in more peaceful countries, are inclined to guard themselves against danger, even though they have all the prowess of Japanese arms, Imperial or rebel, to protect them. But, seriously speaking, a Volunteer force such as that which it was proposed to get up in Yokohama would be really almost entirely in the nature of an armed police, and would, in the case of any danger threatening the foreign settlements, be of undoubtedly service, both in its direct influence and by its moral effects. No valid objection could therefore be reasonably raised against it ; and we cannot but regret that the Japanese authorities have thought it necessary to interfere in the matter. If danger threatened the foreign settlements, the Volunteer force might be of some use. If no danger threatened it would be merely a means of taking good healthy exercise and recreation with the exhilarating feeling that doing so may possibly turn out of some use some day. What there should be in this insulting to the dignity of the Japanese Government it is certainly somewhat difficult to conceive, and we cannot think they were right in concluding that because the young gentlemen in Yokohama intended to go through their goose-steps, the authorities were necessarily called upon to commence taking steps themselves. It is no more an insult to the Japanese Government that a Volunteer corps should be formed there than it is insulting to our Government that Volunteers should exist in this country ; and the extremely techyone which has been assumed in this matter is certainly to be much deprecated. With every wish to respect to the full the rights of Japan, it is impossible to believe that the existence of a small Volunteer force in Yokohama could in any way detract from the Government's dignity ; and its having raised an objection to so obvious a measure of precaution can hardly fail to be looked upon by its best wishers as an evidence rather of weakness than of strength.

A WARNING TO THE CHINA TEAMEN.

IN the course of his report on the trade of Shanghai for the year 1875, of which we have given a *résumé* in recent issues, Sir WALTER MEDHURST calls attention to a very important bearing of the want of care which has of late been displayed by the Chinese in the finishing and packing of teas. This evil has long been the subject of complaint among foreign merchants, but has hitherto attracted little or no attention among those who are most concerned with regard to it, namely, the Chinese merchants, tea dealers and growers. For years past the teas have been found to be more and more defective in firing and packing, so much so that they are now recognised as in a sense a perishable article, and the utmost anxiety is always felt to clear them off before they have lost their flavour and so deteriorated as to become unsaleable except at a heavy reduction upon their original value. Of course so long as this risk falls entirely upon the foreign merchant, it is of little interest to the China dealer and of less to the producers up country. These classes can hardly have been unaware that some such risk was being run ; but the hastiness which has ordinarily characterised purchases has given them every encouragement to become more and more careless in preparing the teas for the foreign market, and more and more eager to hurry them forward. For this they could scarcely be considered much open to blame. Teas of questionable powers of duration might perhaps be considered an equitable return for heavy-sized shirtings ; and so long as the China dealers found that the foreign buyers were contented to take the teas, they had no very great reasons to urge the producers to adopt more suitable means of preparation. Even from their own point of view exclusively, there was no very urgent need for them to take action. China, until late years, had the practical monopoly of the tea-trade, and might almost do as she liked, both as to the quality of the tea supplied and the prices which could be demanded for it. But a very important change has now taken place, and it is time that the Chinese teamen took warning that they will be jeopardising their trade unless they take some steps to improve the firing and preparation. Sir WALTER MEDHURST points out that unless some change takes place China must look for increasing competition in black teas from India and in green teas from Japan ; and there can be no doubt that the warning thus given is by no means premature. Indian teas are steadily gaining popularity and the Japan greens are also competing with those from China. The firing and preparation of both these classes of tea are far superior to that of the teas from China ; and Sir WALTER is of opinion that unless some means can be found to alter the present system, which leaves the production of the teas so much in the hands of small proprietors, China will be destined to find her produce supplanted by that from India and Japan. In the former country great advantage is obtained by the planting, picking and firing being all in one hand ; and this advantage could be equally gained in China were an opportunity afforded for the introduction of European capital and enterprise in the tea-producing districts. This consideration, it may be hoped, will press itself upon the consideration of the Chinese Government. Hitherto the grounds for opening up the country, urged upon them, have been so plainly to the advantage of foreign traders that the Chinese, imbued strongly with the old erroneous ideas of political economy, to the effect that what is one man's gain must of necessity be another's loss, have been disposed to overlook the great benefits which foreign trade offered to their country. The tea-trade has, however, now become so fully established, and has attained such magnitude, that it is impossible for them to be unaware of the great stake they have in maintaining it. Even if looked upon only from the amount of duty which the Government receives—the point of view, by the way, from which it is most likely to impress the native official—the trade with foreigners in tea cannot but be considered as by far too important to lose ; and if the time come, as seems by no means improbable, when it can only be retained by granting some facilities for establishing factories in the tea districts, the Chinese Government may be disposed to relax the restrictions which at present stand in the way of this

and all other foreign enterprise in the interior of the country.

SUBSCRIPTIONS have been invited by the Committee of the Baptist Missionary Society in aid of the sufferers by the famine in North China, to which we have called attention during the last month. They have authorised the Rev. Mr. RICHARD at Chefoo to advance £500 for the relief of the most urgent cases. Contributions may be paid into Messrs. BARCLAY'S, bankers for the Society. Messrs. BOURNE and Co., Mark-lane, have also been successful in obtaining contributions. We can assure all those who have the means that the best guarantee of the *bona fides* of the case is that the foreign residents in the various ports in China have heartily responded to the cry of the starving populations.

WE understand that up to the present no appointment of Consul at Shanghai has been made in succession to Sir WALTER MEDHURST. It is believed that some re-arrangement of the Consulate staff and its duties, is under consideration at the Foreign-office, in connection with the proposed new rules of the Supreme Court, and with a view to effecting a further economy in the working of the two establishments.

WE understand that the judgment of the arbitrator in the case of the Agra Bank *versus* McCall—their late manager at Shanghai—has been given in favour of the Bank.

THE CHINESE ENVOYS.

On Wednesday last, the 9th inst., the Chinese Envoys paid a visit to the South Kensington Museum, and took special note of a portion of the building which is proposed as a model for the Exhibition building which it is hoped may be hereafter opened in Shanghai in connection with the Polytechnic. Sir Walter Medhurst and Mr. Bourne were present with the Envoys and party. They also visited the same day Sir Joseph Whitworth's collection of models and firearms at Thomas's Hotel, Berkeley-square. In the evening they were present at the anniversary dinner of the Royal Literary Fund, when Kwo Fah-Jen responded to the toast of "The literature of other countries." The translation of his speech, as given by Dr. Macartney, is as follows:—

The Minister is more grateful than he can express for the kindness with which, as the newly-arrived Minister of China, he has been received. China has a literature some three thousand years old, a literature for which it would be impossible for the Chinese not to entertain great respect for the matter of it, as it supplies rules by which the individual is moralised and the people of the empire are governed—respect for the form of it, as the beauties of its style are great. Being here to-day, however, as a guest, in his capacity of Chinese Minister, he will not say more with reference to the literature of his own country. The Chinese people very generally appreciate the ability which has distinguished Europe above any other quarter of the globe. In particular they respect the names of Matteo Ricci, Vasties, and Schall, to whom they were indebted for instruction in mathematics; instruction by which the Astronomical Board at Peking is still guided in its calculations. From Europe China also received her knowledge of the mechanical contrivances by which time is marked, and of the appliances of war, both artillery and small arms. The superiority of Western nations in construction of all kinds has been for hundreds of years admitted in China. The secret of it, and of the advance in other branches of knowledge, is that their scholars are indefatigable in their endeavours to arrive by experiments at perfection. It is the usage of all Governments to exalt men of learning, but the Governments of Western nations go further in the honour they do them, and by the honour they do them they stimulate their people to follow. In the three months the Minister has been in London, he has met Professor Tyndall, Mr. Warren de la Rue, Professor Owen, Dr. Hooker, and Mr. Spottiswoode, and having been present at the lectures delivered on electricity, colour, light, and heat, he has been greatly impressed by the learning displayed in them, and the pains taken to be accurate. Thus is science in England made the property of all, and even a casual listener has his ideas expanded and his knowledge increased. Since his arrival the Minister has had an opportunity of observing the excellence of the Government of England in the highest places, aided as it is by the Council, the Houses of Parliament. When a Government is so remarkable for the spirit which animates it, its men of learning will attain the distinction they do attain. The Minister would address himself specially to Lord Derby, as President of this society. He would express the gratification which it affords him to notice its success. He begs at the same time to thank Lord Derby and the committee for their invitation to this dinner. He trusts that the prosperity of England may daily increase, and that with its increase the talents of their men of letters may be daily developed; and that while those beholding for aid to the society's fund may pass their old age in comfort, the beauty of their works may endure for generations. (Cheers.)

THE ICHANG DISTURBANCE.

(To the Editor of the *London and China Telegraph*.)

SIR,—Contrary to what is usual, I notice that the China papers deal very gently with the outrage which has been recently com-

mitted at Ichang, in consequence, at least, as is alleged, of the misunderstanding with regard to the laying out of the foreign concession there. Probably this is a natural reaction from the too sensational tone at one time prevalent in the China press; but I think the affair is one which undoubtedly calls for strong notice, especially at the present time, when we are having dinned into our ears, *usque ad nauseam*, the progress which the Chinese are making and the increasing friendliness of their disposition towards foreigners. The missionaries were hounded out of Ichang by the mob instigated by the *literati*, and Her Majesty's Consul has had to return from the place without laying out the ground. A little oil is thrown into the salad in the fact that the mob has pelted the mandarins as well as Mr. King; but, after all, this is a poor consolation, and makes it only the more glaringly apparent how little we can rely upon the Chinese Government to carry out even the simplest agreements. But the question is, "What is going to be done in the matter?" Are we to wait for the opening of Ichang till, on the one hand, the mob have done pelting the mandarins and exercising missionaries, and, on the other, Sir Thos. Wade has finished his memorandum, and the Chefoo Convention (under which this pelting took place) has been ratified by our Government, or will the treaty have a supplementary clause providing for satisfaction for this little affair, as well as for the Yunnan murder? The only difficulty is that this would necessitate another memorandum, and before it was finished there would probably be another outrage, and this would delay matters still further.—Yours faithfully,

London, May 9, 1877.

OBSERVER.

THE PROPOSED COINAGE FOR HONG KONG.

(To the Editor of the *London and China Telegraph*.)

SIR,—I notice with pleasure that you state in your article upon the proposed minting of a coin here for Hong Kong and the Straits, that the subject is at present under the consideration of the Government. It may be of service to suggest a plan, which I believe has not yet been mooted, but which would probably solve the difficulty in a very simple way. Could not our Indian Mints coin a double rupee, which would approximate to the Mexican dollar in value, and which could be declared the current coin in Hong Kong and the Straits. It would of course be of less value than the Mexican dollar, but it would, I doubt not, circulate at its equivalent value, and would, being guaranteed by the British name, soon command the confidence of the Chinese and other natives; while it would have the additional advantage of being current in India, and be thus the less subject to rapid fluctuations from purely local causes.

Trusting you will find room for these few lines,—I am Sir, yours faithfully,

Manchester, May 8, 1877.

W.

THE CEYLON ENDOWMENTS.

(To the Editor of the *London and China Telegraph*.)

SIR,—Although the vote in the House of Commons with reference to the question of Ecclesiastical Endowments in Ceylon was, as you point out, somewhat large, I can scarcely think that the Government will act wisely in taking steps in the matter if there is any idea entertained of so doing. I may perhaps be permitted to point out that there is really no just cause for complaint whatever, and that people generally in Ceylon are well contented with matters as they are at the present time. The sum of £14,000 annually is not large for such a Colony; and the Government there have always acted with scrupulous fairness in making grants irrespective of religious denomination, while the natives own temple lands, and are thus also taken into consideration as far as it is reasonable to do so. The question which has been brought before the House of Commons, has really been raised almost exclusively by one well-known Nonconformist in Ceylon, who happens to be in a position to make his views heard somewhat further than those of other people. I am pretty certain that if the real opinion of residents in that colony were taken it would be found that they are not desirous of any change; and I trust the Government here will not allow itself to be misled by what is, in reality, only an agitation on the part of a very limited number of ill-advised enthusiasts.—Yours faithfully,

MODERATION.

London, May 10, 1877.

Literature, Science, &c.

During the current week a matter of some importance has attracted no little attention in literary and scientific circles. It seems that since the Senate of the University of London passed a resolution to admit women to its medical degrees, under Mr. Cowper Temple's Act, which enables them to do so without a new charter, the doctors have been troubled in their minds about the probable result of the measure, and have been desirous of opening the other professions also, so as not to encourage undue competition for medical honours. Others, however, are still hoping to turn the tide, and 250 medical graduates of the University have signed a memorial to the Senate praying them to

rescind their resolution. This retrograde movement was proposed in Convocation on the 15th inst., when a resolution that it was undesirable for this University to admit women to degrees in medicine before it should have considered the general question of their admission to degrees in all faculties, was carried by 142 votes to 129, the result being hailed with much cheering by the medical gentlemen present. The "Extraits des Histoires du Japon," which have been in course of preparation by the Society for the Study of Japanese, under the presidency of Count Chas. de Montblanc, are completed. The work is contained in three fasciculi, and is preceded by an analytical introduction, drawn up by M. Ixawura Warau. The preface to Mr. Joyner's monthly sheets contains the description of his station at Tokei, and of the instruments with which that is provided. The most important difference between his outfit and that of most European stations is the presence of a King's barograph and of Palmieri's electrometer and seismometer, for the last-named of which instruments there will probably be abundant use. Messrs. Harper Bros., of New York (London, Tribune and Co.), have published a new work on Japan, entitled the "Mikado's Empire," by Mr. W. E. Griffis, who has collected a mass of materials respecting the Japanese—the result of eight years' acquaintance with them in the United States and their own country. The volume is nearly equally divided between a History of Japan from B.C. 660 to A.D. 1872, and the author's own personal observations, experiences, and studies in the country. A notable feature in the former division is the conclusion arrived at with regard to the Ainōs, Mr. Griffis stating that he is "inclined to believe that India is their original home; that the basic stock of the Japanese people is Ainō; and that in this fact lies the root of marvellous difference in the psychology of the Japanese and their neighbours, the Chinese." The second section of the work deals with much that is of interest in connection with social topics.

The Committee of the Athenaeum Club have exercised the power vested in them for this purpose by the election, without ballot, of the following gentlemen distinguished in literature and art, viz., Professor Baynes, LL.D., editor of the new edition of the *Encyclopaedia Britannica*; Mr. Martin Duncan, F.R.S., President of the Geographical Society; Sir John Gilbert, R.A.; Dr. Oldham, F.R.S., late Director of the Geological Survey of India; and Mr. Leslie Stephen, author of "English Thought in the Eighteenth Century," and other works.

The eighty-eighth anniversary festival of the Royal Literary Fund took place on the 9th inst., at Willis's Rooms, under the chairmanship of the Earl of Derby, who, in proposing prosperity to the institution, referred to the benefits which it had been the means of conferring, and strongly urged its claims for liberal support. The Chinese Ambassador, who (as noticed elsewhere, was present, spoke to the toast of "The Literature of all Countries."

The *Geographic Magazine* for the present month contains a map of the famine districts of Bombay and Madras. It has also an interesting article on the Himalayan System, in reply to one which recently appeared in the *Calcutta Review*. It is noticed that Dr. Thomson, was the first traveller, after the Chinese pilgrim Fa-Lian, who reached the summit of the Karakorum Pass.

Monetary and Commercial.

The Tea Market remains much as was reported last week, and, although prices have been a shade steadier consequent upon a less quantity having been offered at the public sales, there is but little prospect of renewed animation. The low prices so long ruling here, and the losses reported to have been made by tea-men in China, would seem undoubtedly calculated to lead to a late opening of the market, and to a low range of prices for the coming season. But private advices from China point to a repetition of the old, old story. The fleet of fast steamers there already waiting for cargo, and the idea generally prevalent that an opportunity of recouping past losses will occur this year, seem only too likely to force on business in the old style. Indeed, some buyers in China are contemplating with the greatest complacency purchasing the new tea at 20 per cent. above their London value. Such being the case, people who have had so much bitter experience of the trade would probably forecast the result of the account sales which will be made up in London between July and September; but, unfortunately, some too eager buyers seem to be impervious to the teachings of experience.

The total quantity of tea delivered from the bonded warehouses in London during the week which ended on the 5th inst. amounted to 3,568,049 lbs., which was 351,226 lbs. more than was cleared during the corresponding week of 1876. Of this quantity 2,337,289 lbs. went for home consumption, 294,222 lbs. for exportation, 2,933 lbs. for ships' stores, 933,605 lbs. went coastwise to various outports, 241,386 lbs. having been for immediate exportation. The tea duty paid in London last week was £58,432 4s. 6d., which was £2,074 17s. in excess of the sum received from the same source of revenue during the corresponding week of last year.

In the Silk Market the dulness reported for some time past continues, and attention is mainly directed to the prospects of the European crop. The losses on shipments from Japan are spoken of, but as far as we have been able to ascertain, the credits under which the banks bought drafts have all been honoured, though in one or two cases some pressure had to be used to induce acceptance.

According to the *Saturn Public*, the returns of the Condign House for the past week were 941 bales, weighing 54,801 kilos, against 1,262 and 84,114, the figures for the corresponding period of 1876. Towards the end of the week some fair sales were made for England, both in black and coloured tissues. The prices obtained were disastrous, not only considering the cost of the raw material with which the goods were manufactured, but even at the present price of silk. It would be advantageous if all holders would sell frankly at present prices; but a large number, before accepting those rates, seem to be unwilling to lighten their stocks without having tolerably certain information as to the coming yield. Upon this point the paper above named says:—"The news relative to that supply, without being decisive, may, so far, be considered as good. Complaints as to the hatching are rare. The mortality and the irregularity reported, either at the birth of the worm or at its first change, are not serious. The fall in the temperature which we have experienced for some days past delays vegetation and the incubation of the seed in France and the northern parts of Italy. The result is a backwardness in the operations, which always constitutes a condition rather unfavourable to the ultimate changes of the silkworm. But at present no grounds for forming any prognostication exist. The statistics of the Conditon-house for the month of April show the following results:—2,753 bales, representing a weight of 164,197 kilos, against 5,448 and 371,089, the figures for the same month last year, or a diminution of nearly 56 per cent. Since the beginning of the year the figures show 15,237 bales, weighing 923,520 kilos, against 23,981 and 1,613,082 in the corresponding period of 1876, or a decrease of 43 per cent."

In the Produce Markets there has been but little alteration during the week. The advance in several articles arising out of speculative demand is in some instances barely maintained, but the general consumptive inquiry has increased. Tea and Silk are quiet, but steady. The demand for Coffee continues active, and a further advance has been established. The improvement in Sugar has also been maintained, and there has been an extensive business in China at rising values. Cotton is extremely depressed. Camphor, Hemp, Isinglass, Japan Wax, Rattans, Sago Flour, Tapioca and Tin have improved. Pepper and Rice are quiet, with a declining tendency.

The *Gazette* notifies that the Japan Paper-Making Company is in course of liquidation, and that all communications having reference thereto are to be addressed to the liquidators at 1, Jeffrey's-square, St. Mary Axe, London.

We have to note the failure of Mr. Edward Holdsworth, of Shanghai, but at present in London. The meeting of creditors is convened for the 16th inst.

Messrs. J. Henry Schroeder and Co. announce the numbers of 660 bonds, amounting to £100,000 of the Imperial Government of Japan Customs Loan for £1,000,000 sterling, 1870, which have been drawn for payment on and after August, next.

The annual meeting of Reuter's Telegram Company (Limited) will be held at the offices on the 31st inst., for the reception of the report and the declaration of a dividend.

Tenders for £265,000 in bills and telegrams on India were received on the 9th inst. at the Bank of England. The amounts allotted were:—To Calcutta, £243,200, and Bombay, £21,800. Tenders on all presidencies for telegrams at 1s. 9d. will receive about 21 per cent.; above in full (no bills). These figures show a rise of 4d. to 3d. compared with those of last week; but it was expected that the price would have been higher.

Quotations for Bar Silver have improved, and a considerable business has been done at prices ranging from 54d. to 54½d. per oz., this last price having been reached on the announcement that the Bank of Bengal had raised their rate to 12 per cent. Mexican Dollars have also improved in value, and some parcels received from New York and the West Indies have been sold at 54½d. The price is now better, 55d. per oz. the nearest quotation.

BULLION AND EXCHANGE QUOTATIONS.

Bar Gold	...	...	77s. 9½d.	—	per oz.
United States Gold Coin	...	...	76s. 4d.	—	per oz.
German Gold Coin	...	...	76s. 3½d.	—	per oz.
Bar Silver, Fine	...	...	4s. 6d.	—	per oz. ad.
Bar Silver contg. 5 grs. Gold	...	...	4s. 7d.	—	do.
Mexican Dollars	...	...	4s. 7d.	—	per oz.

EXPORT OF SILVER FROM SOUTHAMPTON TO CHINA AND THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

Year.	China.	Straits.
1874	£1,658,835	£1,484,851
1875	723,894	870,120
1876	1,273,757	758,461
1877 to date	637,746	568,693

The directors of the Stoomvaart Maatschappij Nederland have declared a dividend of 5 per cent. per annum for the year 1876. The English shareholders can receive their dividend in London, at the exchange 12.1 florins per pound sterling on presentation of the coupons at the offices of Messrs. Samuel, Montagu, and Co., Old Broad-street.

With reference to the remarks made by our Hamburg correspondent in the last issue of this paper, with regard to the meeting of the Great Northern Telegraph Company, we are requested to state that the final dividend for 1876 was not 5 crowns (6s.), but 2½ crowns, say 2s. 9d. per share; and that the Russian Government has not, as stated, sequestered one of the Company's Asiatic cables, and, indeed, that nothing has occurred to lead to any apprehension of such a measure.

The Great Northern Telegraph Company's cable between Shanghai and Amoy is still interrupted, but communication by the Company's lines with Shanghai and the Japanese stations continues perfect. The Eastern Extension Company's lines are working well.

THE MAILS.

NEXT INWARD MAIL.—SUEZ, MAY 12.—The P. and O. Company's steamer Peshawur, from Hong Kong April 12, Singapore April 19, Galle April 28, arrived here to-day.

INWARD MAIL DUE JUNE 4.—GALLE, MAY 9.—The P. and O. Company's steamer India, with the homeward Indian, China and Australian mails, left to-day for Suez. She has on board specie to the amount of £150,000.

OUTWARD MAIL OF MARCH 30.—SHANGHAI, MAY 11.—The P. and O. Company's steamer Gwalior, from Bombay, with the London mail of March 30, has arrived.

OUTWARD MAIL OF APRIL 6.—SINGAPORE, MAY 10.—The Messageries Maritimes steamer Ava, with the London mail of April 6, has arrived here.

SHIPPING POSTSCRIPT.

ARRIVALS NOT IN THE TABLES.—May 9, at Havre, from Java, Aurora, Orpheus; at Falmouth, from Cheribon, Golden Fleece; 10, from Hong Kong, for Birkenhead, Nicoline; passed Isle of Wight, for Nieuwe Diep, from Rangoon, Woodburn (str.); at Liverpool, from Manila, Columbia; at New York, from Batavia, &c., Alice; at San Francisco, from Manila, Quickstep; at Havre, from Java, Threepwood, Anna, Palmerston; 11, at Falmouth, from Passaroeang, Harfleur; May 9, off Scilly, for London, from Singapore, R. C. Rickmers; 10, at Havre, from Java, Cornelia; 11, Helen Angier; at Antwerp, from Akyab, Lufra (str.); passed Deal, for London, from Hong Kong, Cub; at London, from Hong Kong, Hants County; 12, passed Downs, for London, from Hong Kong, Chalmette; at Falmouth, from Passaroeang, Buston Vale; at Queenstown, from Java, Kurrachee.

DEPARTURES.—April 19, from San Francisco, for Manila, Farragut; May 7, from Hamburg, for Singapore, Anna; for Hong Kong, Woodville; from Cuxhaven, for Manila, Vesta; from Marseilles, for Saigon, Charles Collet; 8, from Texel, for Southampton and Batavia, Holland (str.); 10, from Cardiff, for Java, Undaunted; May 10, from Antwerp, for China, David; 11, from Penarth, for Singapore, Werra.

PASSED SUZ CANAL.—May 11, Amboto, Nankin, both from London, for China.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Gibraltar, arrived, May 9, Quinta (str.), from Rangoon, for Flensburg; passed, Sceptre (str.), from Rangoon, for Liverpool. Malta, arrived, May 9, Heperia (str.) (?), from Penang, for London; Bangkok (str.), from London, for Singapore.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

CLARKE.—On the 26th March, at Bangkok, Siam, the wife of F. Sydenham Clarke, of a daughter.
FALLS.—On the 27th March, at Penang, the wife of Dr. W. T. B. Falls, Acting Colonial Surgeon, Province Wellesley, of a daughter.
HARTLEY.—On the 4th March, at Yokohama, Japan, the wife of J. Hartley, of a son.
LOVE.—On the 20th March, at Shanghai, the wife of Joseph Love, Jun., of a son.
PHIPPS.—On the 1st April, at Malacca, the wife of A. J. Phipps, of a daughter.
RICKETT.—On the 25th March, at Yokohama, the wife of John Rickett, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

CRAUFURD—POOLE.—On the 2nd May, at Stockport, Clifford Russell, second son of the late Clifford Craufurd, of the India-office, to Anne, second daughter of the late Captain George Poole, of Bratton.
GROSVENOR—WILLIAMS.—On the 24th April, at Trinity Church, New Haven, U.S., the Hon. Thomas G. Grosvener, C.B., to Sophie, only daughter of S. Wells Williams, formerly Minister of the United States in China.
LLOYD—TINGATE.—On the 10th April, at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Singapore, by the Rev. Father Dugan, J. T. Lloyd to Anne Ruth, daughter of the late Capt. G. Tingate.
WILLIAMS—THOMAS.—On the 8th May, at the parish church, Cleint, Staffordshire, by the Rev. A. S. Maclean, Vicar of Longton, assisted by the Rev. Lt. Harry, Joseph Silvers, elder son of Samuel C. Williams, of Olutswood, to Lucy Annette, elder daughter of Thomas Davies Thomas, of the Bank House, Stourbridge, No. 2.

DEATHS.

ANNESLEY.—On the 4th April, at Province Wellesley, Penang, Marian E., wife of Capt. Francis C. Annesley, late 93rd Regt.
DUPPA.—On the 2nd May, at Belgrave-terrace, Millbrook, Jersey, Ellen Pinke, wife of Charles, fourth son of the late Baldwin Duppa Dippa, of Hollingsbourne, near Maidstone, and third daughter of the late Major-General Alured Dowsforth Dowsforth, C.B.
EHLERS.—On the 4th May, at Antwerp, Emile Ehlers, aged 37 years.
FOURS.—On the 6th May, at Dover, very suddenly, of heart disease, Major-General William Forbes, late Bengal Army. Friends will kindly accept this intimation.
GWTHER.—On the 5th May, at 10, St. John's-villas, Upper Holloway, George Gwyther, late Collector H.M. Customs, Dumfries, aged 80 years.
HARMAN.—On the 6th May, at Margaret, of paralysis, Thomas Harry Hartman, formerly of Calcutta, and Seymour-villas, Anerley, aged 64. Friends will kindly accept this intimation.
HENDRICK.—On the 27th March, at Shanghai, on board the ship John A. Worcester, Charles E. Hendrick, pilot, a native of New York city.

KNEEBONE.—On the 30th March, at Hong Kong, George Ashwell Kneebone, aged 54 years 11 months.

ROYLE.—On the 6th May, at 6, Egremont-villas, South Norwood (the residence of his son-in-law, Charles Few Royle, of 6, Egremont-park, Wooliside, and of Messrs. Grindlay and Co., 55, Parliament-street, Westminster, in the 65th year of his age).

SMALE.—On the 10th March, at Calcutta, of heat apoplexy, Clement Smale, B.A., solicitor, Bombay, second surviving son of the Hon. Sir John Smale, Chief Justice of Hong Kong, aged 35.

VICKERS.—On the 6th May, William Henry Vickers, of Cedar Lodge, Charlton, Kent, formerly of Stratford, Essex, and St. Mary-at-Hill, Eastcheap, City, in the 78th year of his age.

TEVERTON.—On the 21st March, at Shanghai, Charles E. Tilverton, a native of Poughkeepsie, State of New York, aged 47 years.

Naval and Military.

The following officers, whose last term of service was on the China station, have received appointments as under:—Lieutenant J. F. Bedford (in the Audacious in 1875 and 1876), to the Excellent, gunnery ship at Portsmouth; Lieutenant C. E. Reynard (in the Kestrel in 1877), to the Active, Portsmouth; Sub-Lieutenant the Hon. H. A. Denison (in the Mosquito in 1877), to the Thunderer, turret-ship, Portsmouth; Navigating-Lieutenant W. W. Hutton (in the Thalia from 1874 to 1876), to the Active; Mr. P. Robertson, engineer (in the Princess Charlotte in 1874 and 1875), to the Pembroke, flagship of the Admiral Superintendent Chatham; Mr. O. G. Egan, assistant-engineer (in the Hornet from 1874 to 1876), to the Penelope, coastguard ship at Harwich.

Colonel George Drury, R.M.L.I., who has attained the age for retirement under the provisions of the compulsory clauses of Her Majesty's Order in Council of 23rd February, 1870, has been placed on the retired list of his rank. Colonel Drury served throughout the Burmese war in 1852, and also with the expedition to the Baltic in 1855. He was awarded the medal and clasp for Pegu, and the Baltic medal. By Colonel Drury's retirement, Major O. F. C. Fraser becomes lieutenant-colonel, and Lieutenant H. A. Turner obtains his company.

By the death of Lord Sudeley, the Hon. C. D. R. Hanbury-Tracey, M.P. for the Montgomery Burghs, some time a lieutenant in the Royal navy, succeeds to the title of his brother. The present baron resigned his commission in the navy in 1863. He had served in the Baltic, having been present at Bomarsund, also on the China and Pacific stations, on the former of which he took a gallant part in the action of Fatsham, and on the latter in the capture of San Blas. Lord Sudeley has the Baltic and China medals.

The Narcissus, 28, Captain Lord Charles Scott, bearing the flag of Rear-Admiral Lambert, C.B.; the Topaze, 28, Captain Thruopp; the Newcastle, 31, and Immortalité, 28, Acting-Captain Gerard Neal—the four screw frigates forming the Detached Squadron—arrived in Plymouth Sound on Thursday from China, via the Cape of Good Hope, and await orders as to their destination.

Col. C. S. Henry, C.B., Royal Horse Artillery, Aide-de-Camp to the Commander-in-Chief, has been appointed to the command of the Royal Artillery at Aldershot, in succession to Col. J. Turner, C.B., Royal Horse Artillery, removed as a general officer.

Major H. E. Glass has been promoted to the lieutenant-colonelcy of the 37th Foot. The command of the 80th Regiment has become vacant by the retirement on full pay, and with the honorary rank of major-general, of Colonel H. C. Smith.

Lieutenant M. F. Onslow, Royal Engineers, Private Secretary to Lord Carnarvon at the Colonial-office, has been appointed Crown Agent for the Colonies.

Colonel F. W. C. Ord, Royal Artillery, has been appointed to the command at Sheerness.

The trooship Himalaya, homeward bound from China, was to leave Simon's Bay on the 22nd ult.

COURT OF APPEAL.

PROVOND V. LANGTON.

This was an action of a remarkable character—an action against a Manchester firm for selling cotton stuffs largely adulterated with mineral matters—and it was also an appeal on the part of the defendants with a view to have the trial at Manchester. The plaintiff, a merchant in London, trading to Shanghai, ordered of the defendants, a Manchester firm, a quantity of "grey shirtings," and they were sold, packed in Manchester, and delivered there to carriers for the plaintiff, the purchaser, by whom they were sent to Shanghai. On their arrival there it was said they were found to be largely adulterated with mineral matters mixed in the size with which the cloths were dressed, so as to increase the weight. The goods were sent back from Shanghai, and thus thrown upon the plaintiff's hands, and he sued the defendants, the Manchester firm, for damages, laying his cause in London. The defendants obtained an order from the Judge at Chambers, Baron Cleasby, to change the venue to Manchester; and the plaintiff, on an affidavit by himself and his attorney, the effect of which was that he could not have a fair trial at Manchester, applied to set aside the order and restore the venue to London. The affidavit of the plaintiff stated "I verily believe that the sole and main reason of the defendants for desiring to change the venue is that from my knowledge of Manchester I believe it to be the fact that as the majority of the special jurors in Manchester are manufacturers, or persons having identical interests with manufacturers, there will be a strong prejudice against a person setting up such claims as in this action; and I verily believe that for this reason I should not obtain in Manchester such a fair and impartial trial and consideration of the case as in London or Middlesex." The attorney of the plaintiff made a similar affidavit, adding that he believed that consideration of expense and practical convenience with reference to witnesses also were in favour of trial in London; but upon this point the affidavits were very contradictory, and there were affidavits on the part of the defendants to show that the convenience was the other

way. On the other hand it was stated that the defendants set up that the goods had been injured in their transit, the witnesses as to which would be in London. The Judges of the Queen's Bench Division, the Lord Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Moller, set aside the order of Baron Cleasby, and directed the trial to be heard in London, on condition of the plaintiff paying any extra expense thereby occasioned to the defendants. From that decision the defendants appealed.

After some discussion, it being pressed upon the Court that the defence itself turned on evidence necessarily in London, as to the alleged injury to the goods in course of transit, they arrived at the conclusion that it would be best to confirm the decision of the Queen's Bench Division, and restore the venue to London.

PARLIAMENT.—HOUSE OF COMMONS.

SIR JAMES BROOKE.

Mr. BAILLIE-COCHRANE said he wished to ask the right hon. gentleman the member for Greenwich a question of which he had given him private notice. In the speech which the right hon. gentleman delivered on the 7th inst., a passage occurred which did not attract his notice at the time it was delivered, but to which his attention had since been directed by the friends of the late Sir James Brooke. The passage was to the effect that the right hon. gentleman "did not recollect a more painful scene than the slaughter of the Dyaks by the soldiers of Her Majesty under Sir James Brooke." The fact was that the Admiral in command of the station—Sir Thomas Cochrane—gave the order for the attack on the forts, and that the conduct of Sir James Brooke was justified after full inquiry by the House of Commons. He wished to ask the right hon. gentleman whether he intended to convey any censure upon the officers of Her Majesty's troops who only obeyed the instructions they received from the Admiral, or upon that distinguished man the late Sir James Brooke.

Mr. GLADSTONE said that the words quoted by his hon. friend were, he believed, not precisely correct, but they did not essentially vary the effect of the impression he wished to convey. He was made to state that it was the soldiers whose conduct he blamed, but his recollection was that he referred, as he certainly had intended to do, to the naval operations; that they were performed by the guns of the ships, not in the minor warfare in detail. Undoubtedly his opinion was that the act was one of great and gross cruelty, but the responsibility had been entirely removed from the shoulders of Her Majesty's troops. He had forgotten when he spoke to mention that a commission of inquiry had been appointed; but he did state in the most explicit manner, and he was glad to have the opportunity of saying again, that neither the Commander-in-Chief, the Admiral of the station, who was not cognisant of the facts, nor Sir James Brooke, a man of great energy, ability, and high character, and who was very much esteemed by men who were most worthy of esteem, and still less the officers and sailors of Her Majesty's fleet, could be in any degree held responsible for having acted strictly under the orders they received. He believed he had stated that the whole matter was brought under the cognisance of the Government at home, and also under the notice of the House of Commons. There was an animated debate in reference to it, and on a division a large majority sustained the conduct of Sir James Brooke and those who were concerned with him in the operations referred to, and his opinion as one of the minority was that no blame could possibly attach to Sir James Brooke personally. The responsibility had been taken by the authorities at home and by a majority of the House of Commons.

THE Prince of Wales, Princess Louise, the Marquis of Lorne, and suite honoured the old galleries of Messrs. Agnew, Waterloo-place, with a visit on the 11th inst., to inspect the collection of water-colour drawings made in Japan by Mr. Frank Dillon during the years 1875-76.

THE Eastern and Australian Mail Steam Company's steamer *Brisbane* arrived at Singapore May 10 (one day early), with the Queensland mails of April 22, which are due in London on June 18.

It is stated that a Japanese Prince, a nephew of the Mikado, who is staying at Berlin, has announced his betrothal with Madame von Tettan, the widow of a Prussian officer.

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.

Messrs. Arthur Capel and Co.'s Circular says:—There is no change to notice in our market this week, the public sales continue on the reduced scale, and thus the steadier tone in prices for common Tea has been maintained. The better grades sell slowly at previous prices. Scented Teas and Green Teas show no material alteration. Congou.—Red-leaf kinds: Siftings continue firm; common to good kinds have sold at previous rates; fair to medium kinds show no change. Good to fine Kaisow kinds are well supported, being comparatively scarce. In Pak Lin kinds the few sales have been at about previous prices. Black-leaf kinds: Common to fair common show no change; good common kinds have sold rather dearer; fair to medium kinds are still relatively cheap; good to fine kinds are firm, but business is limited in amount. New-make kinds: Common to fair remain firm; further arrivals of new season's have come to hand, and have sold from 1s. 2d. to 1s. 7d. per lb., being about former rates. Oolongs and Souchongs show no material change. Scented Teas: Canton Capers sell slowly at rather easier rates for common to good kinds. Orange Pekoe remain much as last week. Foochow kinds, both of Caper and Orange Pekoe, remain in fair request at full prices. Green Teas: The demand is still sluggish, and prices realised at public sale have been somewhat irregular, especially for common to medium kinds.

Messrs. Lloyd and Cheshire's Circular says:—We are unable to quote any improvement in our market, although the low prices ruling for common Black and Red leaf Congou has given buyers more confidence. New-make Congous: A small consignment of season 1877-78 has arrived, and sold at from 1s. 8d. to 1s. 5d. per lb.; in old seasons a few sales have been made at rather easier values. Souchongs are offer-

ing at lower rates, but even at the reduction buyers are not eager. Oolongs have not been pressed for sale quite so much lately, but prices show no alteration. Scented Teas: Canton Capers sell slowly at rather easier rates, and Orange Pekoe are dull of sale. Foochow Orange Pekoe is rather scarce, and previous rates are maintained. Green Teas: The amount offered privately, and by auction has been more than the trade require, and some very low prices have been made, especially for the inferior grades of Young Hyson and Imperial. Ping Suey still meet with competition at a slightly lower range of price. Japan Greens sell very irregularly.

The public sales have comprised 11,749 packages, nearly the whole of which were sold without reserve. The deliveries for the week, as compared with last year, are as follows, viz.:—

	1877. lbs.	1876. lbs.
Home Consumption	2,263,114	2,199,981
Coastwise	685,570	643,305
Exports	450,580	235,590
	<hr/> 3,399,364	<hr/> 3,079,176
CARGOES AFLOAT 11TH MAY, 1877.		
Date.	Ship.	From.
Jan. 29	Norman Court	Shanghai
Feb. 24	Stentor (s.)	Shanghai, &c.
Feb. 22	Florence Nightingale	Foochow
Total		1,984,000
Same time last year		475,000

SILK.

Messrs. Hogg, Walker, and Co.'s Circular says:—The market continues very quiet, and prices, though irregular, remain unaltered. The news of the prospects of the European crop are far from favourable. Telegrams just arrived report the weather in the Silk-growing districts as cold and rainy. The deliveries are 558 bales, against 612 bales at the same time last month, being from 1st to 9th inst. inclining—China, 358 bales; Canton, 133; Japan, 36; Bengal, 29.

Messrs. Arles, Dufour, and Co.'s Lyons Circular of May 5 contains the subjoined report:—Repeated advices of large auctions of Silk goods in New York at ruinous prices, the approach of the new crop, and the war in the East have contributed to bring the position of our market from bad to worse and, during a fortnight the few sales effected have only proved the anarchy of prices. In the last week of the month, Paris and English buyers began to operate; some important purchases in black Silks were effected, and a few orders in coloured goods placed at about the same prices as in April last. These transactions, coupled with a change in the weather causing frosts to be apprehended, have led since a few days to some revival in Silk business. Throwsters of China Silk, unwilling to stop work altogether, have been able to part with some fairly large lots of Throwns, and, although prices obtained show a loss on relative values of Rawn, they effected some purchases. In European Silks very few sales are reported, and only at prices establishing for new Silk a parity under £1 for cocoons. Under such circumstances, most holders prefer awaiting the result of the European crop. Everywhere it has been delayed. In France and in Northern Italy the hatchings are very nearly completed under rather better conditions than expected, but trees are in arrear of worms, and the weather remains, it appears, unfavourable to the growth of leaves. In Spain, the worms progress satisfactorily between the 3rd and 4th stage, but the small supply of seeds hardly admits of a larger crop than that of last year.

Messrs. B. Richardson and Son's New York Circular of the 21st ult. says:—In raw silk business has dragged heavily for the past month. For the last few days there has been a rather better feeling, and some little trade has been done. Manufacturers act very cautiously to avoid shrinkage, and are working very close. Stocks—of Chinas (1,050 bales), have increased slightly; of Cantons (800 bales), are somewhat reduced, yet they are only moderate on the whole. Prices are, to some extent, nominal.

Coffee.—The market has gained further strength, notwithstanding the continued heavy supplies of Plantation Ceylon, both actual and prospective. This is chiefly attributable to an extensive export demand, and with increasing activity the upward movement has received a constant impetus, resulting in a further general advance, making the total rise from the late lowest point 7s. for Plantation. The quantities at auction this week, although less extensive, have been liberal, but as the magnitude of recent deliveries has stimulated the demand, strong competition and advancing prices have been recorded daily, closing about 5s. higher for the fortnight. Native and pale kinds, not having suffered to the same extent, have advanced only 2s. to 3s. Foreign descriptions have participated in the improvement. Plantation Ceylon, middling closes at 102s. 6d. to 104s. Native, good ordinary at 83s., quotations being as follows:—Plantation, triage, 78s. to 91s. 6d.; gray to fine colour small, 91s. to 98s. 6d.; low middling, 100s. to 101s.; middling, 102s. to 104s. 6d.; good middling to fine middling bright, 105s. to 108s.; dull to fine bold, 108s. to 115s.; extra bold, 117s. 6d. to 120s. 6d.; pea-berry, 105s. 6d. to 110s. 6d.; Native, small and broken, 72s.; good ordinary, 81s.; bold, 84s. 6d. The only sale of other East India has been 141 bags Manila, fine ordinary greenish at 85s. 6d.; good pale at 89s. per cwt.

Sugar.—A continued strong demand for common kinds has led to large sales at 3d. advance; whilst good refining kinds continue in good request, both on the spot and afloat, also at firmer rates. Several floating cargoes have been sold, particulars are not divulged. The following is a detailed account of the business in East India descriptions. On the 4th inst. in auction of 2,903 bags Native Penang 260 bags yellow sold at 23s., the remainder good brown being bought in at 21s. For arrival 300 tons unclayed Manila sold at 21s. 6d. and a cargo of superior clayed at about 26s. 6d. also a cargo of about 6,000 bags good yellow China at 25s. On the 5th on the spot, 50 tons fine clayed Manila sold at 27s. 6d., 200 tons Hainan China at 21s. 3d., and 150 tons brown

China price not reported; for arrival 120 tons Native Penang sold at 20s., and the floating cargo per Armid, 400 tons superior clayed Manila, January sailing, at 26s. 6d. On the 7th 2,000 bags s. ft white refined China (Pieces) sold at 32s. On the 8th at auction 7,235 bags brown China, per Univers, from Swatow, were all bought in at 21s. 6d. to 22s. On the 9th, for arrival 200 tons Native Penang sold at 20s. In auction of 11,050 bags per Salamis, from Hong Kong, 1,600 bags sold, fine strong yellow clayed at 28s. 6d. to 29s., fine brown at 26s. 6d., the remainder bought in, chiefly good brown Hainan at 28s. Privately 2,450 bags crystallised ex the previous day's auction sold at 31s. 6d. to 31s. 9d. On the 10th no public sales were held, but privately the following sales were made: 7,235 bags Swatow China, ex the auction of the 8th, at 21s. to 21s. 6d., being dearer, and 1,400 bags good clayed Hong Kong at 26s. 6d. For arrival 300 tons fine yellow China sold at 28s.

Tapioca.—The good supply of 2,003 bags Singapore in public sale met more demand, and 1,200 bags sold at firmer rates, middling dull and small to good at 2½d. to 5d., fine to very fine at 2½d. to 3d., Malacca at 2½d. to 3d.; 228 bags Alma Penang sold, fine white at 3d., inferior grey at 2½d. to 2d. **Pearl Tapioca:** 452 bags met more demand at 6d. advance, but only 200 bags found buyers, medium at 19s., seed at 20s. **Tapioca Flour:** About 1,300 bags have been sold at 1d. per lb.

TIN.—Although prices have been very irregular they have ruled higher, and more business has been done. Straits after rapidly advancing from £69 to £71 cash and to £70 for June delivery, more suddenly declined to £69 5s. to £69 10s. end of the month fixed, and subsequently improved to £70 15s. cash and to £70 15s. to £70. 10s. three months, but it is now held for £71 cash. Banca is quoted £75 to £76. Biliton £71 per ton.

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date.	Ship.	Captain.	From	At
May 3	Mathilde	Dan.	Hong Kong	Liverpool
3	Ferd. v. d. Tacian (s.)	VanCoppendale	Do.	Do.
3	Leighshaw (s.)	Bain	Rangoon	Do.
3	Kirk	Lorance	Manila	New York
3	Velocity	Martin	Singapore	Do.
4	Hennetts Adrians	Schuchard	Batavia	Flushing
4	Ziba	Croot	Manila	Vlmid. n
5	Twee Zusters	Harding	Macassar	New York
5	Necta	Clarke	Singapore	Boston
5	Gesia	Muller	Bangkok	Marseilles
6	Campuse Glen	Smith	Java	Queenstown
6	Chrydina (s.)	—	Bassein	Curhaven
6	Woodburn (4)	Thompson	Rangoon	Falmouth
6	Hermon	Stephen	Java	Bristol
7	Christina	Defmar	Samarang	Grenock
7	James Aitkin	Linn	Illo Illo	New York
7	Conrad (s.)	—	Batavia	Texel
7	Nieuwe Waterweg II.	Jakobs	Banjoevraagte	Groenewerhavene
8	Romeo	Clark	Rangoon	London
8	Attala	Elle	Malimain	Do.
8	Captain Dan	Williams	Java	Queenstown
8	Royal Crown (s.)	Thompson	Rangoon	Liverpool
8	Tartar	Kaemena	Hong Kong	San Francisco
8	Mare and Helene	Warka	Singapore	Philadelphia
8	Androklos	Vogt	Do.	New York
9	Dreaming Louise	Bonde	Swatow	London
9	Stenor (s.)	White	Shanghai	Do.
9	Panama	Burgdorf	Manila, for Amatun.	Falmouth

DEPARTURES.

Date.	Ship.	Captain.	To	*From
Apr. 24	Alice	Shearer	Yokohama	New York
25	Sunrise	Clarke	Anjer	Do.
26	Ogil.	Krogh	Padang	Do.
27	C. S. Bushnell	Mayo	Hiogo	Do.
May 1	Gerhardine	Hansen	Singapore	Hamburg
1	Vryheid	Bannars	Macassar	Ymuiden
2	Sapphire	Condon	Singapore	Liverpool
3	Starboard	Pawlett	Hong Kong	Do.
3	T. G. Goddard	Smith	Singapore	Penzeth
3	Salatigo	Blesthorat	Souabaya	Shieden
3	Antonia	Bons	Do.	Ymuiden
3	Maria Anna Cath. Eliz.	Reeders	Macassar	Do.
3	Hellona (s.)	Ahrens	Shanghai	Hamburg
4	James Shepherd	Madden	Hong Kong	London
4	Chariton (s.)	—	Singapore	Sunderland
4	Barbadian	McNellan	Java	Ardrossan
5	Scottish Fairy	Wilson	Singapore	Sunderland
5	Cape Clear (s.)	Boss	Bangkok	Southampton
5	Antomette	—	Samarang	London
6	Glenorchy (s.)	Hogg	Singapore, &c.	Do.
7	Thorbecke II.	Gollards	Samarang	Ymuiden
8	Bennus	—	Manila	Penarth
8	Ste. Adress	Leroy	Saigon	Havre
9	Marie Becker	Kirchoff	Singapore	Cardiff

See Shipping Postscript and Correspondents' Letters.

PASSED SUEZ CANAL.

Date.	Steamer.	From	For
May 2	Gangyle	London	China
4	Resperia	China	London

SPOKEN.

J.G.S.W. (Am. ship), Java to Boston, Feb. 18, 35 S., 23 E.
NOACH II., Rotterdam to Java, April 27.
MARTIN VAN ROESKE, Rotterdam to Java, same time.
LARNAK, Manila to London, Feb. 6, in Banca Straits.
L.C.F.W. (barque), Samarang to Falmouth, March 23, 34 S., 24 E.

ANTON GUNTHER, Rangoon to Bremen, March 10, 26 S., 62 E.
MELPOMENE, Rangoon to Hamburg, March 17, 29 S., 47 E.
FELICITAS, Rangoon to Falmouth, March 23, 32 S., 33 E.
GLENISLA, London to Singapore, March 29, 3 S., 45 W.
ABBEY COWPER, London to Shanghai, May 5, 10 miles S. of the Owers.
GLENFRUIN, Greenock to Singapore, April 1, 1 S., 29 W.
AMSTERDAM, Cardiff to Singapore, April 20, 12 N., 29 E.
SNAP (schr.), of Horten, Knudsen for Java, May 4, 54 N., 3 E.
WILHELMINA CATHERINA, Java to Queenstown, March 13, 28 S., 11 E.
MARIE CHARLOTTE, Bordeaux to Saigon, March 24, 4 N., 19 W.

CASUALTIES.

AMSTERDAM.—May 7, the Conrad (str.), arrived at Nieuwe Diep from Batavia, has on board the crew of the Presenze (German barq.), lost at sea; she saw, when near the Channel, the Moine (French str.) showing signals of distress, but could render no assistance on account of bad weather.

LISBON.—May 9, the Anna (Dutch ship), from Cowes to Java, put in here yesterday; the crew refuse to proceed, alleging that the vessel is unseaworthy.

CAPE TOWN.—April 10, the R. P. Buck (Amer. barque), from Proboleingo to Falmouth, with sugar, has been totally wrecked off Aasfontein, eastward of Cape Agulhas. She came against nearly perpendicular rocks, and is completely smashed up, and it is a wonder a single man was saved. Beside the smashed debris of the wreck, some thousand of empty sugar pockets, and three boats, there will be nothing for sale.

NEW YORK.—April 24, the Castine, from Java to Falmouth, with sugar, put into St. Thomas, 15th April, leaking. She was surveyed, and part of her cargo transhipped. She proceeded with the balance with the aid of steam pumps. April 28, the Bethany, previously reported ashore, was sold by auction, April 26, for \$25.

MISCELLANEOUS.

CAPE ST. VINCENT.—May 5, passed, Prins van Oranje (str.), from Nieuwe Diep, for Batavia.

GIBRALTAR.—May 5, cleared, Bangkok (s.), from London, for Singapore.

MALTA.—Sailed, May 2, Sceptre (str.), from Rangoon, for Liverpool; May 5, Arethusa (str.), from Akyab, for Antwerp. Arrived and left, May 4, Victoria (str.), from Liverpool, for Manila; May 7, Nankin (str.), from London, for China; Amy Dora, from Akyab, for Antwerp. Sighted, May 8, a steamer, apparently York, from Yokohama.

ST. HELENA.—Arrived and left, April 7, Madam Demorest, from Hong Kong, for New York; 10, Othello, from Rangoon, for London; 11, Voorlichter, from Batavia, for Nieuwe Diep; 15, India, from Rangoon, for Falmouth. Passed, April 7, Maria, from Samarang; Cornelis Smit, from Anjer, both for Falmouth; 8, Aroe Bay, from Rangoon, for London; 11, Edward F. Bouvier, from Rangoon, for Falmouth.

TABLE BAY.—Sailed, April 7, Batavier, for Batavia.

CAPE AGULHAS.—Passed, Lennox Castle, from Singapore, for London, 44 days out.

ALGOA BAY.—Arrived, April 8, Mabel, from Illo Illo.

LOADING.

AT LONDON.—STEAMERS VIA SUZ CANAL.—For Singapore, Hong Kong, and Shanghai: Glenfalloch. For Penang, Singapore, Hong Kong, and Shanghai: Lotus. For Penang, Singapore, Hong Kong, Yokohama, and Hiogo: Lorne, Atholl.

SAILING VESSELS.—For Yokohama: Lothair. For Yokohama and Hiogo: Pauline, Kingdom of Sweden. For Shanghai: Wylo, Birchdale. For Hong Kong: Melbrik, Ferdinand Brumm, Kate Carnie, Elmstone, Lord of the Isles. For Batavia, &c.: Valero, Ada, Indien. For Singapore: Lake Leman, Selim. For Penang: Celono.

AT LIVERPOOL.—For Penang, Singapore, Hong Kong, and Shanghai: Achilles (str.). For Hong Kong: Lord Macaulay, Pilgrim, Peruvian, Sophia. For Yokohama, &c.: Newman Hall. For Manila: Cadiz (str.), Teodora. For Anjer: Longfellow. For Singapore: Frans Uthemann, Kalliope.

AT GLASGOW.—For Manila: Miako. For Illo Illo: Leonie. For Penang and Singapore: Ashmore.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

Rates for steamers on the berth are strong, and continue to advance. By sailing ships the rates are low. Coal rates are stiffening, especially for steamers. Homeward chartering shows some movement.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth.

Per STEAMERS VIA SUZ CANAL.—To Yokohama: 50s. weight, 45s. meast. To Hiogo: 50s. weight, 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: 60s. weight, 65s. meast. To Shanghai: 45s. weight, 40s. meast. To Hankow: 60s. weight, 60s. meast. To Hong Kong: 45s. weight, 40s. meast. To Singapore: 45s. weight, 35s. meast. To Penang: 45s. weight, 35s. meast. To Colombo: 80s. weight or meast. To Batavia: 60s. meast. To Samarang: 70s. meast. To Sourabaya: 70s. meast.

Per SAILING VESSELS.—To Yokohama: 30s. weight, 30s. meast. To Hiogo: 30s. weight or meast. To Shanghai: 25s. weight, 20s. meast. To Hong Kong: 25s. weight, 20s. meast. To Singapore: 22s. 6d. weight, 20s. meast. To Penang: 22s. 6d. weight, 20s. meast. To Batavia: 20s. weight, 25s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Colombo: 25s. weight, 22s. 6d. meast.

The current quotations for coal, &c., are as follows:—From Wear or Tyne, per keel—To Yokohama: £30. To Shanghai: £30. To Hong Kong: £25. To Singapore: £22. To Penang: £23. To Colombo: £20. To Galle: £18. To Batavia and Sourabaya: £22.

From Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea, per ton.—To Yokohama: 35s. To Shanghai: 32s. 6d. To Hong Kong: 27s. 6d. To Manila: 25s. To Singapore: 22s. To Penang: 23s. To Colombo: 22s. To Galle: 20s. To Batavia and Sourabaya: 22s.

From Birkenhead, per ton.—To Hong Kong: 22s. 6d. To Shanghai: 25s. To Singapore: 19s. To Batavia and Sourabaya: 18s. To Galle: 18s.

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THE FAMINE IN CHINA.

THE Rev. T. RICHARD, of Chefoo, whose communications have been recently referred to in the columns of *The Times*, writes as follows:—
“People of all ages die of actual starvation by thousands. This is no exaggeration. The famine extends over a district which includes at least 5,000 villages, and in these, taken together, I am certainly within the mark in saying that 600 die daily. Perhaps 1,000 may be within it. A few days ago I traversed the worst part. It is most heartrending. Can anything be done immediately at home? Friends in Chefoo have sent me \$500. Shanghai and other places I have not heard from yet. The first steamer of the Spring is expected north to-day. Perhaps \$1,000 more will be made up. Funds will save lives on to the end of May. It will be only charity after that. If you can do anything telegraph.” Under date March 8 Mr. Richard says:—“I draw another £50 today, making in all £250. If I die before the year is out let my property here make up the deficiency, so long as I have anything to mortgage. I cannot abide the sight of people dying about me without giving them relief. Thousands upon thousands have perished already. Houses are pulled down in every village to sell the timber and thatch in order to get food. Those who can get husks and dry leaves ordinarily used for fuel are considered well off. Most of the poor young girls have been sold. Old men, middle aged, young men, and children die daily of sheer starvation, and others freeze. The dead cannot get a burial; they are too many, and none can afford the expense, so they are cast daily into large pits. Terrible.”

The Committee of the Baptist Missionary Society have, by telegraph, advised Mr. Richard to draw £250 at once, and authorized the payment of a further sum of £250 if urgently needed.

CONTRIBUTIONS in aid of the Famine Relief Fund will be thankfully received by the Treasurer, Joseph Tritton, Esq., 19, Castle-street, Holborn, London, E.C., or by the bankers of the Society, Messrs. Gatrell, Bevan, Tritton, Twells, and Co., 34, Lombard-street.

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The Committee is happy to have at the present time

Master, the Rev. Edward Waite, M.A., a gentleman of

high literary qualifications, while Mrs. Waite is a true

mother to the boys. There is an efficient staff of masters

assisting Mr. Waite, and every confidence is felt that

such an education is being given as will afford entire

satisfaction both to the parents and the subscribers. The

Institution is wholly *secular* in its character. The

total number of boys received since 1855 is 307. Of

these 176 were the sons of missionaries of the London

Missionary Society; Baptist, 75; Presbyterian, 93

Wesleyan, Episcopalian, and others, 23.

The School is not intended for merely secular instruc-
tion; the spiritual interests of the boys are carefully

attended to; they are diligently instructed in the truths
of Holy Scripture, their conduct constantly watched over,

and the whole of their school life pervaded by Christian
influence. The Committee are aware that the character

of education in general has been much improved in re-
cent years, and being anxious not to fall behind any similar

institution, have tested the progress of the boys periodically by Cambridge University Examiners and otherwise, with very satisfactory results. They desire to stimulate the diligence of the boys by offering for competition at least one scholarship—or by what shall be equivalent to a scholarship. Some of the lads above

excellent capacities, which would justify the highest
opportunities of culture.

The terms on which pupils were originally received
were £15 per annum. The charge is now £18, which,

considering the increased cost of provisions, &c.,
is nearly equal to the £15 of former times.

The Committee respectfully and urgently solicit the
annual assistance of all friends who are able to help the
institution by their contributions. They cordially thank the
liberal contributors to the Special Fund above re-

ferred to, and beg again to remind them and other

friends of the School that it is entirely dependent upon
the payments of the parents, and upon voluntary sub-

scriptions, there being no endowment of any kind, or
any other source of income, with the exception of an

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to which, however, there is no legal claim.

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First-class Dutch Daily Paper, published at Batavia, Java, by Messrs. Elsaner and Co. Yearly, £5 2s. 4d. London Agent, FRED. ALCAR, 8 Clement's-lane, Lombard-street.

HOTEL BALMORAL, PARIS, 4, RUE CASTIGLIONE.

MR. MACKENZIE, Proprietor (late Hotel Walther), gives personal attention to visitors. Apartments of all sizes. Terms moderate. All languages spoken.

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RUE NOAILLES, MARSEILLE.

THIS Hotel is specially recommended by visitors to and from India, China, and Japan. All descriptions of Apartments, from £.50 to £.5. Restaurant, Table d'Hôte, Reading Rooms, &c.

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ON the Grand Canal. First-class house with south aspect, the largest, best-appointed, and most richly furnished Hotel in Venice. Elegant apartments for large and small families, replete with every comfort, and decorated in ancient style. Excellent restaurant. Private gondolas at the Hotel. English and other languages spoken.

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THIS splendid Hotel, situated at the entrance of the Suez Canal, offers every modern comfort at moderate charges. Large Dining, Coffee, Billiard, and Drawing-room with Piano. English, American, French, Italian, German, and Dutch papers. Garden. Hot and Cold Baths.

SHEPHEARD'S HOTEL, CAIRO.

THIS old-established House has been refitted with all modern comforts, and is well recommended to passengers to and from India, China, &c. New and Old Cairo offer the greatest contrast for visitors.

NEW HOTEL, CAIRO.

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ALEXANDRIA.

Proprietor—PANTELLINI.

THESE Establishments are fitted with every comfort for visitors.

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THIS extensive Establishment, opened in 1870, is very favourably known. Travellers and Passengers passing through the Suez Canal can be provided with any article. Cigars of the best Dutch manufacture, real Havana, Moulins, &c., &c., at the most reasonable prices.

TANJONG PAGAR DOCK COMPANY, LIMITED, SINGAPORE.

A Telegram dated Singapore, 23rd April, advises that the recent Fire has in no way interfered with the business of the Company. The Fire was confined to the Coals stored behind the Wharf; and the Dock Wharves, Warehouses, and Machinery are uninjured.

All branches of the business are being continued as usual.

MACTAGGART, TIDMAN, & CO., Agents.

34, Leadenhall-street, London, 24th April.

 OVERLAND ROUTE
via SUEZ CANAL.—The PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL COMPANY'S STEAMERS sail from Southampton, via the Suez Canal, as follows:—

	Tons H.P.	May	Aden.
Australia	3,663 600	17	Mediterranean, Aden, Ceylon, Madras, Calcutta, Straits, China, Japan, & Queensland.
Mirzapur	3,783 600	24	Mediterranean, Aden, Bombay.
Hindostan	3,118 600	31	Mediterranean, Aden, Ceylon, Madras, Calcutta, Straits, China, Japan, and Australia.
Mongolia	2,833 680	June 7	Mediterranean, Aden, Bombay.

* Taking passengers for Bombay also by branch steamer from Suez.

 OVERLAND ROUTE
via ITALY.—The PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL COMPANY will despatch their Steamers with the Overland portion of the Mails and Passengers in connection with the departures from Southampton, shown above, as follows:—

From Venice to Alexandria ... Every Friday.

Brindisi ... Monday.

For full particulars apply at the Company's Offices, 34, Leadenhall-street, E.C., and 26, Cockspur-street, S.W.

 COLOMBO.—The PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL COMPANY now book passengers to Colombo at the same fares as to Galle. Apply at 34, Leadenhall-street, or 26, Cockspur-street.

 OVERLAND ROUTE
via MARSEILLES and SUEZ CANAL.—Under contract with the French Government for the conveyance of the Mails to INDIA, CHINA, JAPAN, BATAVIA, REUNION, and MAURITIUS.

The MESSAGERIES MARITIMES COMPANY will despatch their steamers from MARSEILLES via the Suez Canal every alternate Sunday at 10 a.m., beginning on Sunday, the 5th of November.

* Passengers seaward of Suez securing their berths in London are entitled to the free conveyance of their luggage to Marseilles, as explained in the Company's handbook.

For Passage, Rates of Freight, and Particulars see the Company's handbook, and apply at the Company's London Head Office, 97, Cannon-street, E.C.; or at the West End Sub-Agency, 51, Pall-mall, S.W.

 CHINA.
THE following SPLENDID First-class CLIPPER SHIPS will be despatched as under:—

Port.	Ship.	Class.	Dock.	To sail.
Hong Kong	Elmstone	Al 15 yr.	—	With des.
Shanghai	Wyo	Al 16 yr.	E.I.D.	With des.
Yokohama	Lother	Al 16 yr.	—	With des.

Apply to KILLIE, MARTIN, and Co., 10, George-yard, Lombard-street, E.C.

With quick despatch.

 FOR YOKOHAMA and HIODO, the favourite clipper PAULINE, Al eleven years. 472 tons register. South West India Docks. THOMAS TYREE, Commander. All Goods must be marked with port of destination.

For Freight or Passage apply to ROBERTSON and Co., York-chambers, Manchester; and 5, Newman's court, Cornhill, London, E.C.

 GLEN LINE OF STEAM PACKETS.—INDIA, CHINA, AND JAPAN.—The undernamed powerful Clyde-built BOATS, specially adapted for the Indian, China, and Japan trade, are intended to be despatched on these advertised dates for SINGAPORE, HONG KONG, and SHANGHAI, taking goods at through rates for SAIGON, YOKOHAMA, KAGASAKI, and HIODO:—

Steamers.	Class.	Tons	Horse power.	Date of sailing.
Glenaloch	Al 100	2,120	276	May 19
Glenroy	Al 100	2,121	250	To follow
State of Louisiana	Al 100	1,869	240	To follow
Glenlyon	Al 100	2,119	275	To follow
Glenmengie	Al 100	2,800	630	To follow
Glenorney	Al 100	2,106	330	To follow
Glenurquhart	Al 100	2,120	330	To follow
Glenville	Al 100	2,120	330	To follow
Glenugie	Al 100	1,676	290	To follow
Glenorchy	Al 100	2,788	410	To follow

* For terms of Freight and Passage apply to McGREGOR, Gow, and Co., No. 1, East India-avenue, London, E.C.

 GELLATLY, HANKEY, SEWELL, and CO.'S regular line of steamers, via SUEZ CANAL, to PENANG, SINGAPORE, JAVA, SAIGON, CHINA, and JAPAN:—

Ports	Ship.	Class.	Tons.	Dock.	Sailing.
Pen., Sing., Hong Kong, Yokohama, and Hiogo	Atholl	Al 100	1,108	V.I.D.	

For Freight or Passage, apply to GELLATLY, HANKEY, SEWELL, and Co., Albert-square, Manchester; 1, Fenwick-street, Liverpool; 61, Pall-mall, S.W.; or 109, Leadenhall-street, London, E.C.

Steam via the Suez Canal.

 FOR PENANG, SINGAPORE, HONG KONG, YOKOHAMA, and HIODO, the splendid screw steamship ATHOLL, 93 Al, 993 tons register; 1,436 tons gross register 170 h.p. nominal; 850 h.p. effective. W. S. THOMPSON, Commander; loading in the Victoria Docks. This fine full-powered steamer, owned by Messrs. John Warneck and Co., is well known in the China trade.

For Freight or Passage apply to GELLATLY, HANKEY, SEWELL, and Co., 1, Fenwick-street, Liverpool; Bridge-water-buildings, Albert-square, Manchester; 61, Pall-mall, S.W.; and 109, Leadenhall-street, London, E.C.

 STEAM TO CHINA, via SUEZ CANAL.—The following high-classed Steam and Sailing Ships will be despatched as under:—

Port.	Ship.	Class.	Dock.	Last shipping day.
Pen., Sing., Hong K., Yokohama, and Hiogo	Burmese, s.s.	100 Al	S.W.I.D.	June 3
Hong Kong	Kate Carnegie	Al	S.W.I.D.	With des.
Hong Kong	Lord of the Isles	Al	W.I.D.	To follow
Yoko. & Hiogo	Kingdom of Sweden	100 Al	W.I.D.	With des.

The above magnificent steamers have elegant and spacious accommodation, replete with every comfort, for first-class passengers.

For Freight or Passage apply to NOAIS and JOYNER, 196, Bishopsgate street Within, E.C. (corner of Cornhill).

 FOR HONG KONG, with quick despatch, the well-known clipper MELBREK, Al 15 years, 870 tons register, J. PEIRCE, Commander; South West India Docks.

For Freight, apply to SHAW, WILLIAMS, and Co., 9 Benchurch-street, London, E.C.

 BATAVIA-NEDELE LAND STEAMSHIP COMPANY (the only line of steamers under special mail contract with the Netherlands Government).

The following well-known Clyde-built mail steamers will be despatched on the undermentioned dates from SOUTHAMPTON, to PADANG, BATAVIA, SAMARANG, and SURABAYA, calling at Naples, taking cargo also for all transhipment ports:—

VOORWAARDIS, 3,000 tons, May 22.

CONRAD, 3,000 tons, June 13.

* STAD HAARLEM, 3,000 tons, June 19.

* Not calling at Naples.

Fares:—First Class, £28; Second Class, £21.

For Freight and Passage apply to J. RANKINE and Son, Glasgow; or to the General Agents of the Company, KELLER, WALLS, and PONTELETHWAITE, 16 and 17, King William-street, London, E.C.; 73, Piccadilly, Manchester; and at Southampton.

 BLUE DIAMOND LINE.—LONDON to SHANGHAI.—The following high-classed Vessels will be despatched, as under:

Vessel.	Class.	Tonage.	Dock.	Last shipping day.
Wigton	A 100	727	W.I.	Sailed, Mar. 24
Abbey Cowper	A 100	699	W.I.	Sailed, Apr. 3
Birchvale	A 100	893	W.I.	May 20
Abber Town	A 100	762	W.I.	To follow
Vale of Doon	A 100	663	W.I.	To follow
Vale of Nith	A 100	697	W.I.	To follow
Bencultha	A 100	970	W.I.	To follow
Stuart	A 100	890	W.I.	To follow
Overdale	A 100	890	W.I.	To follow

For Freight or Passage apply to the Owners, JOHN HAY and Co., 28, Brunswick-street, Liverpool, and 11, Leadenhall-street, London, E.C.

 BLUE DIAMOND LINE.—ANTWERP TO SHANGHAI.

Vessel.	Class.	Tonage.	Dock.	Last shipping day.
Wigton	A 100	727	—	Sailed
Edward Barrow	3/8 L.I.L.	958	—	May 5
All Ship	—	—	—	To follow

Apply to J. P. BEST and Co., Antwerp; or to the Owners, JOHN HAY and Co., 11, Leadenhall-street, London, E.C.

 FOR Tanjong Pagar, SINGAPORE.—The following VESSELS are now on the berth in LONDON.

Tons.	Brokers.	To Sail.
Glenaloch, s.s.	McGregor, Gow & Co.	May 19
Lake Leaman	Wright Bros. & Co.	May 20
Mikado, s.s.	Shaw, Williams & Co.	May —
Atholl, s.s.	Gellatly, Hankey & Co.	May —
Burmese, s.s.	Norris & Joyner	May —
Glenroy	McGregor, Gow & Co.	June 4

 LIVERPOOL.

Fatoelus, s.s. — Alfred Holt — May 29

Stentor, s.s. — Do — May 29

Scale of wharf and dock charges may be had on application to the Company's London Agents, Messrs. MACTAGGART, TIDMAN, and Co., 34, Leadenhall-street, E.C.

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